The New-York Times.

VOL. XXI......NO. 6323. NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1871. PRICE FOUR CENTS.

CHRISTMAS.

How the Day was Observed in this City and Elsewhere.

A Bright and Joyous Anniversary.

The Streets Thronged with People in Holiday Attire.

Home Comforts of Well-to-do Citizens.

The Poor Kindly Cared for at the Institutions.

Appropriate Services in Nearly all the Churches.

Our ideas of Christmas are usually associated with cold weather, snow, ice, roast beef and plum puddings, holly and mistletoe, blazing fires, going to church in the morning and partaking of a family dinner in the evening, new toys for the children, and hearty greetings for all. But yesterday seemed to set all our calculations at defiance so far as the weather was concerned, and to defeat all our expectations. May seemed to have come upon us about five months too soon, and by some mistake of the clerk of the weather to have been sandwiched into January. The skies were as bright and cloudless and the sun as warm as if, but a few hours before, we had not been experiencing the rigors of a Winter that would have done honor to the Arctic regions. The bright warm sun and the dry streets proved strong incentives to out-of-door exercise, and during the entire day our principal thoroughfares had a larger share of promenaders than a holiday of this kind usually brings forth. The Protestant Episcopal and Catholic churches were, as a general thing, well attended, their decorations of evergreens and flowers, and their more than usually choice musical programmes proving great attractions, and doubtless drawing many within their portals that are not, it is to be feared, in the habit of attending there. By the majority of our citizens the day was spent much as any other holiday is that is considered to be half religious, half secular, when it is thought quite right for the heads of the family to attend church in the morning, and the younger branches to witness a theatrical performance in the evening. This does not seem to be exactly right. The day is one on which to celebrate the most solemn and most important event that has ever occurred to the Christian world. It is a day of rejoicing, certainly, but also one which all Christians must think of with a sense of awe mingling with their gladness. Church and theatre do not go well together, and there is something ludicrous and at the same time almost shocking in the idea of one member of a family going to listen to the solemn Christmas music at Trinity, while another permits himself to be charmed by the "Postillion of Lonjumeau" or "Barbe Bleue." But no matter whether a man goes to church or theatre or opera, he must have his dinner, and most persons suppose that on Christmas Day they are entitled to eat a better and bigger dinner than usual, whether it be of roast beef and plum pudding or turkey and mince pie. To the rich man his Christmas dinner is a matter of little importance, for he fares neither better nor worse than on other days. To the middle classes it is a matter of no trifling importance, and is often the source of much anxious thought. Who but DICKENS can tell of the agony of anxiety that tortured the breast of Mrs. Cratchit in regard to her Christmas pudding, and of the faces "livid with fear" of the younger Cratchits on the mere expression of opinion that the pudding might not be as good as a Christmas pudding ought to be. Doubtless many families of the Cratchits sat down to dinner yesterday, and though the pudding served up on many of their tables was not as rich or as ponderous as we could have liked, on behalf of the hungry little mouths around to have seen it, yet let us hope that it was eaten with good appetites and with thankful hearts. On the whole, we may believe that yesterday was spent as pleasantly by the majority of our citizens as this great Christian holiday usually is, and though there were no merry makers or Christmas gambols, or Lords of Misrule or Feasts of Fools, as in the "good old times," which we are inclined to believe were not half as good as they are said to have been, yet the bright and pleasant day was enjoyed by all in a quiet way, and we trust with a thankfulness for mercies received and for afflictions averted.

The Children's Aid Society.

The Children's Aid Society is probably the largest institution devoted to charitable purposes in New-York. No less than twenty-four lodging-houses and industrial schools, situated in all corners of the City, owe their existence to this Society. In them are to be found children of all nations and religions, many houses being devoted to the exclusive protection of little Germans, and one house, in Worth-street, to the maintenance of Italian children. Over 3,000 of these waifs and strays of our population participate in the Christmas festival. Owing to the number of these lodging-houses, it was found impossible to give a general celebration on Christmas Day, so that the festivals of the Society commenced on the 20th of December, and will last until the 10th of January. Through the urgent appeals lately made on behalf of this charity, the managers have been enabled not only to furnish the children with a Christmas dinner, but have also gladdened their hearts by presents of clothing and other useful and appropriate gifts. At four of these lodging-houses the Christmas feast took place yesterday. Of these four the principal one is the Newsboys' Lodging-house in Park-place. Here, at 6½ P. M., 200 boys sat down to a substantial dinner of roast beef, plum pudding, apples, &c. The lateness of the hour at which the feast closed prevented any musical entertainment or addresses being given. The house was visited during the evening by a large number of ladies and gentlemen, who expressed their delight at the tasteful decorations of the dining and reading rooms, as well as at the evident enjoyment with which the boys "punished" their Christmas fare. At the close of the feast, the boys all assembled in the reading-room to hear a speech on topics of the day from an ex-newsboy. This youth is known by the peculiar sobriquet of "Paddy Beef," and delivered a most intensely amusing oration upon the subject of "The Depravity of the Ring." He said that for a number of years he had watched our municipal politics with deep interest, and was as well able to expose the evil doings of the Tammany Ring as "any other man." His speech throughout was full of shrewd hits and observations, and was received with uproarious applause. At the Phelps Mission and Lodging-house, in East Thirty-fifth-street, a festival was given to the young people at 9 A. M. A short musical service took place, and a few friends briefly addressed the little people, after which the prizes, from an immense Christmas tree, were distributed. Over 1[illegible] children received presents of various kinds, in addition to which every girl in the room received a new dress, and many of the boys were presented with warm and useful articles of clothing.

At the Newsboys' Lodging-house, in West Eighteenth-street, about fifty boys sat down at 5 P. M. to an excellent dinner of roast turkey, puddings, ice cream and fruits. Mr. THEODORE ROOSEVELT presided, and at the conclusion of the meal delivered an earnest address to the boys, which they evidently appreciated. Mr. ROOSEVELT, at the close of his remarks, said that last Christmas he had promised to present $25 to the boy who should send him on this Christmas Day the best written and most appropriate letter. He then read aloud the one which had been selected, and it proved to be an excellent specimen of penmanship, besides containing many simple and touching sentiments. JOHN H. MILLER was the fortunate youth, who stepped forward to receive his present, and showed himself to be a modest and intelligent lad.

At 7 P. M. about fifty more boys, whose avocations prevented them from being present at dinner, were furnished with a hearty repast, at the close of which the whole number participated in a musical entertainment. The Lodging-house at No. 327 Rivington-street furnished 150 newsboys and bootblacks with a Christmas feast of roast turkey and the usual luxuries of the season. This house was very tastefully fitted up for the occasion, a large conservatory having lately been presented to it, from which many choice flowers were taken to embellish the reading-room. The supper took place at 7½ o'clock, after which Mr. HOWARD POTTER, the donor of the feast, addressed the boys in a happy and entertaining manner. Several hymns and choruses were sung in a really excellent manner, the presents, from a large Christmas-tree furnished by a lady friend, were distributed, and the festival concluded.

At the Howard Mission.

The Christmas festival was observed at the Howard Mission in New Bowery, yesterday, by the customary reunion of the children and patrons of the institution. From an early hour in the forenoon an immense crowd of happy, expectant faces thronged the corridors of the Mission, making the echoes ring with their gladsome shrieks and laughter. The institution contains at present somewhat over 400 children, but by special invitation those who have passed from its protecting care and mixed in the busy strife of life, were present, and entered with renewed zest into the spirit of the occasion. A large number of the general public witnessed the pleasing event. About noon nearly 700 children were marshaled into the reception-room under the direction of the excellent Superintendent, Rev. Mr. VAN METER, assisted by a number of lady friends. A beautiful Christmas tree, blessed by the favor of the time-honored Santa Claus, was placed at the head of the room, and drooped under the load of things with which it was laden. It was an object of intense admiration, and the little ones danced joyously around it. The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. VAN METER. A choice selection of Christmas carols were then rendered by the entire assembly, and the general proficiency of the children was the subject of much commendation, and reflected very creditably on the management of the institution. Happy addresses appropriate to the occasion were delivered by Rev. Mr. VAN METER, Mr. HATCH, the patron of the institution, Mr. FOOTE and others, and after singing the Christmas hymn the children were conducted to the dining-room in a lower portion of the building. Here another surprise awaited them. Another Christmas tree was erected, adjacent to the dining table, also beautifully decorated. Dinner consisted of meats, fowls and puddings, of all descriptions. Satiated with the good things provided for them so abundantly, all interest was centered in the distribution of toys and Christmas presents. Each one received some little memento of the presence of the great festival of Christmas, and evidenced its delight in unrestrained and continuous outbursts of joy. Singing was again resumed, and shortly after 3 o'clock the celebration concluded with prayer. Perhaps the most interesting feature of the day's programme was the interview between Rev. Mr. VAN METER and his old pupils. Through the fatherly kindness of its patrons hundreds annually leave the institution for lucrative employments and enter life with fair prospects of success. Many of those returned yesterday from great distances to wish their old teachers "A happy Christmas and a merry New-Year." The pleasure of the interview was mutual, and teachers and pupils alike felt the joyousness of the reunion. The entire celebration afforded a convincing illustration of the great benefits conferred on the entire community by the Howard Mission.

At the House of Industry.

At the Five Points House of Industry services commenced at noon in the chapel, which had been prettily decorated with evergreens and flowers for the occasion. Some 300 children, clean and bright-looking, joined in the exercises. At 1 o'clock dinner was eaten by the children and out-door pensioners, who disposed of some fifty turkeys, half a dozen large pieces of roast beef and puddings and pies innumerable. One of the features of the occasion was the Christmas tree, and the giving out from its laden branches of 400 toys, consisting of small horses, woolly sheep, mewing cats, tin horns, dolls, small caps, flags and numerous other articles that Santa Claus had provided for the occasion. The eagerness with which these toys were seized by the little ones was most amusing. A large number of the toys were also brought by visitors who came during the day. At 3 P. M. the exercises in the chapel were resumed, and continued until 4 P. M. Quite a large number of visitors were present.

At the Five Points Mission.

The only notice taken of Christmas at the Five Points Mission was the distribution of a number of presents to the children assembled in the school-room. A few visitors only were present. No dinner was provided.

At the Tombs.

The sepulchral and overcrowded prison known as the Tombs presented, inside, the cheerful aspect which it only has on Christmas Day. In the kitchen, during the morning, several cooks, working under the supervision of Mrs. FOSTER, the Matron, were busily engaged in converting a huge crate of turkeys, geese, and chickens into an edible form. Some of the turkeys were roasted, but the great culinary achievement of the occasion was a huge chicken stew, in which 300 pounds of the fowls were mixed in proper proportion with potatoes, onions and other vegetables. This vast stew, flanked by roasted turkeys and geese, excellent bread and butter and coffee, constituted the Christmas dinner which it is the custom of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction to annually present to those confined in the Tombs, and which yesterday was partaken of by nearly 300 prisoners, who were served under the personal supervision of Commissioner BELL, Warden STACOM and Mr. FINLEY. The male and female prisoners were feasted separately, but there was enough of the excellent viands to more than supply the needs of all. In addition to this public feast many of the prisoners were supplied by their friends outside with all the delicacies of the season, so that the day in the grim prison was one of riotous living, and all the grated corridors for the time echoed sounds of jollity, and all the men and women crammed back after the dinner into the overcrowded cells were as contented as it was possible to be under such straitened circumstances.

At Ludlow-Street Jail.

Christmas Day was as pleasantly spent at Ludlow-street Jail by the eighty-five prisoners incarcerated there as was possible in their peculiar position. An elaborate breakfast and dinner were provided by the kind-hearted warden, at his personal expense. The edibles consisted of turkey—118 pounds being used—roast beef, chicken, duck, corned beef, pudding, pies, vegetables and fruit. In the afternoon and evening Herr WILLIO, Professor of Legerdemain and ventriloquist, imprisoned on a suit for alleged violation of a contract, gave voluntary performances, much to the delight of the prisoners. Ex-Controller CONNOLLY had a Christmas repast served in the apartments given up for his special use by Warden TRACY. His Christmas in jail was cheered by the presence of his wife, daughters, and a number of intimate friends who called during the day. Mr. SAMUEL G. COURTNEY, his counsel, was in consultation with him in the evening. In the afternoon CONNOLLY came into the jail office and mixed with the other prisoners. He appeared to be in good spirits, and there was even an air of jollity in his salutation of the Warden. Somebody sent him a present of a basket of flowers. Upon the top of the basket the flowers were so arranged as to make the word "hope."

At the Forts.

The United States troops at the forts and military stations in the harbor enjoyed the festival yesterday in a hearty manner. Discipline was generally relaxed, and there was less duty to perform than on any other day in the year. After cleaning quarters early in the morning, and appearance at guard-mounting, all were exempted from further service except the few unlucky ones whose turn it was for guard duty. A specially good repast was provided, of which all partook. The dinner at Governor's Island was notable for its excellence, a special appropriation having been made for the purpose, from the reserve fund. Passes to the City were given freely by Commandants from Saturday night until last evening, soldiers doing regular duty being allowed twenty-four hours, and those on extra duty forty-eight hours. Every boat from Forts Hamilton, Wood and Wadsworth, Governor's and David's Islands, and Willett's Point, brought to the City a cargo of jolly blue coats, with polished buttons and clothes well brushed, intent on a day's pleasure. Those who remained at the posts during the day were cheered by the visits of male and female friends, who went down on the steamer *Henry Smith*, and the Governor's Island steam ferry-boat, to the stations. At night the soldier boys made the barracks ring with mirth, and lights were burned in the barracks after the evening "taps" from the drums had sounded their admonitory warning to put lights out. Meanwhile, officers themselves, filled with Christmas cheer and thoughts of a day pleasantly spent, shut their eyes and ears to what was transpiring. A new barge-office for the boats of the harbor forts has been finished at the Battery, and being opened for the first time, yesterday, may be regarded, with its comfortable stove and benches, as a Christmas gift to the men who wait for the boats plying between the City and the stations. "This day," said a soldier, stepping into the barge-office, "is the jolliest day in the year for the soldiers. Little work and plenty of time for 'fun and frolic.'" Unhappy people are they who do not share the soldier's delight at the advent of the merry Christmas time.

On the Islands.

Christmas Day was happily spent at the various island institutions. The tables literally groaned with good things kindly provided by the authorities. At Ward's Island the Emigration Commissioners made ample preparations to give the inmates a thorough good time. The rooms were beautifully decorated with evergreens and devices, while the tables were crowded with eatables, around which were assembled men and women of all nationalities. The inmates on Randall's and Blackwell's Islands were bountifully treated by the Commissioners of Public Charities. At the former, the whole day was one of festivity, from early morn till late at night. The children looked happy and grateful, while the loud huzzas that rent the air at intervals fully testified how grateful they were to their benefactors. The entertainment given by the children in the afternoon, which consisted of recitations and singing, was loudly applauded by the visitors, while the parade of the Randall's Island Guard, elicited much praise. Not only were the children feasted, but the deserving ones were presented with toys, much to the delight of these poor little ones. The Blackwell's Island Institutions for the day seemed to have suddenly altered their appearance. The dismal walls were all decorated, while the hitherto sorrowful faces beamed with joy. At the Alms House, where there are 1,000 inmates, all was gaiety. The poor old men and women seemed to enter with zeal and energy into the entertainments provided for them. At the Work-house all troubles and sorrows seemed to be forgotten for the time, for nothing was wanting to make the inmates happy and comfortable, while at the Lunatic Asylum, where there are at present 1,400 inmates, the enthusiasm that was thrown into the festival was almost boundless. At the Charity and Convalescent Hospitals everything that could be devised to make the inmates comfortable was done. At Bellevue Hospital, the whole day was one of enjoyment. The entrance to the sombre building was bedecked with evergreens and flags, while the wards and corridors were splendidly decorated. Warden BRENNAN was busy the whole day looking after the welfare and happiness of the inmates. At midday all were treated to a bountiful supply of turkey and other Christmas fare, while in the evening an interesting and amusing entertainment, consisting of singing and charades, was given by the warden and his officers before a large audience. After the entertainment was over a dance was indulged in, and was kept up till quite a late hour. In the midst of the entertainment Warden BRENNAN attempted to join in matrimony a couple who have recently been divorced. In the midst of the ceremony, however, according to a previous arrangement of the warden's, two other men claimed the woman, and as their claims could not be then investigated the Warden decided to postpone the ceremony.

Among the Germans.

The Christmas festivities of the Germans yesterday, for which extensive preparations had been made by private parties as well as by the numerous clubs and social organizations, were fully enjoyed throughout the day. The places of amusement along the Bowery, in Avenue A, and other German localities, bore a festive appearance, and were, during the day, thronged with persons in holiday attire. The Atlantic Garden was crowded with pleasure-seekers. The orchestra was decorated with five richly ornamented Christmas trees, and the entrance embellished with several huge pine-trees and garlands. The National and Bowery Gardens presented a similar festive appearance, and were patronized by German mechanics and working men, with their families, enjoying the national beverage, while listening to the vocal and histrionic performances.

Concordia Hall, in Avenue A, where, in the evening, a grand Christmas ball was given, was the great rendezvous of the German population of the Seventeenth Ward, which locality the inhabitants themselves call Klein Deutschland (Little Germany,) to signify that the district is nothing less than a German colony. The Christmas distribution of gifts by the Saamen Saengerbund at the Walhall, in Orchard-street, attracted a large attendance of the families of the members of this organization. The children's festival of the Beethoven Maennerchor, at the Beethoven Club-house, was an equally attractive affair. The German turners of the west side assembled at the Turn Hall, in Spring-street, where a drawing for Christmas gifts was in progress, which was followed by a ball in the evening. The Germania Quartet Club was engaged in a Christmas soirée and distribution of Christmas gifts at Coberger Hall, in Stanton-street.

At Dramatic Hall, in Houston-street, a soirée was given under the auspices of the German Women's Aid Association Schillerhein, which included a representation of a three-act drama, entitled "The Slave Market at Richmond." The German Women's Benevolent Society gave its seventh annual ball at the Harmonie Rooms, in Essex-street, which yielded a handsome surplus in aid of the charitable fund, established by the Society. The Theodor Koerner Liedertafel, a thriving German vocal organization, was engaged in a Christmas soirée and distribution of gifts at its hall, in Fourth-street, which was fully enjoyed by the families of the Association. The Mozart Maennerchor was engaged in similar Christmas festivities at its hall in Fifth-street. The Hudson Maennerchor was assembled at its head-quarters in Vandam-street, and engaged in a distribution of Christmas gifts, which were attached to a huge Christmas tree. Similar festivities in honor of the day were given by a number of minor organizations, and by many private parties. At the Seventh-avenue Assembly Rooms two grand festival concerts were given during the day, which were followed by a ball in the evening.

SERVICES IN THE CHURCHES.

The Sanctuaries Thronged in the Morning—Imposing Ceremonies in Some of Them.

The services in the various churches yesterday were peculiarly impressive, and the sermons by the different preachers were more than usually eloquent. All the churches were decorated with a profusion of flowers and evergreens, and in many of them the decorations presented a magnificent appearance, which, coupled with the illuminations of gas-jets and lighted candles and tapers in many of the Protestant Episcopal Churches, and in all the Roman Catholic Churches, rendered the scene very pleasing to the eye. Services commenced at an early hour, and were continued in the afternoon and evening. The majority of the places of worship were crowded, and the day being a warm one for the season, the fashionable churches were filled by an audience, many of whom had not ventured out for weeks past. There are those who go to Church for the sake of the Church, being Christians, but there are those, too, who go to Church to see and be seen, and this class is rarely to be found in the fashionable churches on wet days. It is a fact, though, perhaps, a strange one, that many go to Church on Christmas Day who have not been there for the previous twelve months. This is peculiarly the case with a certain class of Roman Catholics. They will remain away from prayers on Sunday after Sunday, but on Christmas Day they feel that, bad as they are, they would commit a very grievous sin if they absented themselves from Church. This and the fine day will account for the overcrowded state of the churches yesterday.

Church of the Messiah—Sermon by Rev. Dr. Hepworth Touching the Divinity of Christ.

Rev. Dr. HEPWORTH preached yesterday morning at the Church of the Messiah, taking his text from John, first chapter, eighteenth verse: "The only begotten son of God which is in the bosom of the Father." He said: You must hear me faithfully today, my friends. It is not my desire to enter into any discussion of the external or the internal evidences of Christianity. I have no inclination to enter into that path now, neither do I care to examine the various readings of the Bible. The field is so large that as I cannot explore it thoroughly, I will shut the door and leave that part of the subject to itself. All I ask of you is to lay aside, if you have any, all the teachings and reasonings of philosophy upon the point, and to meet me on the basis of the Bible. I wish you to accept the Book in its plain meaning as you yourselves read it and understand it from day to day. I want to assume before I commence that the Bible is proved in the main, and that its statements of what was done and said are open, manly and fair. That being granted, I can open the examination of my subject. The first thing that strikes our attention in the four records of Christ is His use of the words "I" and "me." He speaks as one having authority, as a royal personage, as one who commands, knowing that He must be obeyed. We could not endure such language in LUTHER, great as he was; neither could we have borne it from any merely human intellect, however exalted. No man, however gigantic in mental stature, has ever existed who could use that royal "I" without impiety. Even Moses, standing on the Mount, receiving the tablets of stone fresh from the very hands of Jehovah, did never dare to use that word of authority, or to assume that air of royalty and that style of grandeur. But Jesus assumed them from the hour of baptism in the waters of Jordan, in His teachings to the world, and we are not shocked. It belongs to Him; instinctively and irresistibly we pay to Him honors such as were never paid to any King that ever sat upon a purple throne. A famous man once said, "I take it that there is this difference between Christ and other men who have towered seemingly above humanity. If SOCRATES should enter the room where we are sitting, we should rise and doff our hats so greatly should we reverence him. But if Jesus entered, we should kneel down and cry 'Abba, Father.'" I think this is the place that Jesus holds among men and which he has won by his transcendent and unspeakable benefits bestowed upon them. I want now to treat this matter in a different manner from my usual method. I am going to be dogmatic. You know well that I never had a liking for dogmas. When I studied theology these were as dust in my throat, and choked me when I tried to swallow them. Still it is fair that every man should upon occasion declare the platform of his belief. If you grant that the little words of Scripture are absolutely to be taken for their own weight, for what they rigidly simply, and not to be strained and warped and explained into nothingness, then I say that from the accounts of Christ in the four Gospels there comes a halo that is godlike. When Christ says, "Oh, Father, glorify me with thy own self," &c., can he mean anything save a declaration of his own pre-existence? If the words of that passage whose commencement I have indicated have any meaning at all, it is that. I do not say that this pre-existence was coeval with that of the Father, but this I do claim, that if these words have any meaning, then, at some former time and in some place, Christ had a previous existence. Again he says, "If a man love my Father he will love me, and we will take up our abode within him." You can, if you like, deny the validity of this passage; you can call it an interpolation and erase it in your books, but if you don't, then it means that Christ's power was co-ordinate with the Father's, and that the two existences were in some mysterious fashion interlaced and intertwined. Did the Jews have any glimpse of this tremendous fact, did they gain any insight into the more than royal character of the Being that walked among them, did they understand the purport of his utterances? I must answer in the affirmative. In a dim and groping way their minds were impressed with the knowledge of Christ's assertions, for they endeavored to stone him, exclaiming that he made himself equal with God, a crime of blasphemy, according to their religious code, only to be expiated by lapidation. Yet did they never recognize the great voice that arose and thundered eternal truths in their ears? a voice that cheered the poor man, and threatened the hypocrite and the oppressor; a voice so potent that the slave, as he heard it, felt the chains breaking from his limbs. In that voice the Jew heard only his doom, and he hated it. He thirsted to silence it in blood, and he slew the Master with a bitter death. Then the vail of the Temple was rent, and the whole world shuddered in sympathetic horror, and men felt everywhere that a great mystery had been accomplished. Leaving the dogmas, I now wish to speak of the historical value of the facts of Christ's life. I want to call your attention to his influence in human affairs as an element of progress. If I have read history aright, that influence saved the world. Saved the world. Nothing else could have done it. If Christ was only a man, then we have such a leader as we have no examples of. Was it possible that a man should preach sermons that should be universalized? Yet Christ's have been. If He was only a Hebrew reformer, though he had been inspired of God, though He had spoken with clarion notes, though He had thundered with supreme honesty and boldness, yet would His influence have died away. If He was a prophet, then He would take place among the prophets, and we should look upon Him as upon Moses and Isaiah and Ezekiel. Yet did these prophets but typify and foretell His coming. But if, on the other hand, we look upon Him as divine; if we believe that in some fashion the power of God the Father was resident in Him, then we should have a right to see an influence that never wanes, a voice that never stills, a fulfillment of all prophesies, an utter change in the fashion of the world's politics, its science and its philosophy. And this is exactly what has occurred. The great men whom we have heard and have honored sink into pigmies if you but compare them with Christ. A moment before towering above the average of humanity like mountain peaks, now they shrink and wane into mole-hills before the great presence of the mighty Christ. Who is LUTHER, pray you, but the lowliest follower of Christ? And who, pray, is CALVIN, and who are all these grand heroes of past ages at whose mention our blood thrills—who are all the great and the good who have stood up and suffered for the truth? Are they Christs, or what? They are no more to be compared to Him than the petty rushlight's flame to the broad zone of light that streams from the great sun. Christ leads, they follow. He commands, they obey. He stands among them, they kneel in humblest adoration. In personal religion, in my religion, in yours, in that of every one, I would ask what influence Christ's life has on you? To whom do you go when great emergencies arise? Do you go to Christ or do you go to God? For my part, I go to Christ. I find for myself this infinite difference between the two, and I believe there will always be the same to the best man or the best woman on the earth. God is a far off idea, an insoluble mystery, a tremendous name of awe—something to be spoken of with dread, to be thought of with solemnity. We speak of Him and our hearts warm to Him, but oh, how hard it is to get any conception of Him! I have felt this in my religious life, and I presume it is the same with you. Now, to supply this hiatus, comes Christ. You can talk to Him, you can take His hand, you can look on Him, you can gaze on those ineffable eyes. For He was a man, He suffered as you and I suffer, He walked the streets as we walk them, He hungered and thirsted as we do, He joyed as we have joyed, He wept as we weep. Jesus, in speaking of himself, says: "I am the Good Shepherd," and where would the sheep go, if not to Him? "I am the door." Yes, but the door is not the temple. Yet, where should the worshipers assemble and crowd, if not around the door? But more than that, Christ says that He commands every human experience and controls it. "Come unto Me all ye that weary and bear heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Did He mean it, or did He not mean it? If the Scriptures are true, then it is distinctly to be understood that He will do it. You can choose for yourselves. If you believe the Scriptures, then He is the one to whom you should bear your sorrows. More than that, He assumes the right to forgive sins and claims to be the Judge of the whole world. Is it a man that thus speaks? Is it an angel, is it a prophet, or is it one more than all these put together? Dr. HEPWORTH concluded with a rapid résumé of the effect of the Christian dogmas, especially those connected with religion.

Trinity Church.

A large congregation filled Trinity Church at both services. The edifice was beautifully and tastefully decorated, and really seemed to have been transformed into a bower of evergreens. The musical selections were performed with great spirit, an additional orchestra of thirty-two select musicians, comprising ten violins, two violoncellos, two double basses, two flutes, two oboes, two clarionets, two bassoons, two French horns, three trombones and two kettle drums having been provided for the occasion. Among the musical selections given were several from MOZART'S Second and Twelfth Mass; "Gloria in Excelsis;" "Nunc Dimittis;" "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing;" and the usual processional and recessional hymns. Rev. Drs. OGILBY, GEORGE FERGUSON, Mr. KEMBLE and Dr. DIX officiated, Dr. DIX delivering the sermon.

Christ Church.

The Christmas arrangements at Christ Church, in Fifth-avenue, were unusually elaborate and impressive. The church was beautifully decorated, and the chancel especially was profusely ornamented with flowers and evergreens. Christ Church has been distinguished, of late, for the peculiar style of its music, and this was amply illustrated yesterday. The following programme was rendered by Dr. CUTLER, organist of Christ Church: Processional, "O Come, all ye Faithful." Venite and psalms to Anglican chants, from CUTLER'S *Trinity Psalter*, Te Deum by GAVOZZI. Anthem, "Glory to God on High and on Earth Peace," &c., from MOZART'S Twelfth Mass, by a full chorus of fifty voices. Hymn, "Shout the Glad Tidings." After service the hymn, "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," was given. Rev. Dr. DUNHAM officiated, and the sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. THOMPSON, of Chicago.

St. Thomas' Church.

At St. Thomas' Church, in Fifth-avenue, there was a sunrise service at 7½ A. M., with Christmas hymns and carols, and morning service with the Holy Communion at 11 o'clock. The music was rendered by the regular choir of thirty-five members, under GEO. WM. WARREN, organist, F. A. SCHRECKER, assistant organist, and A. F. TOULMIN, harpist. The following was the programme:

Carol: "Hosanna to King David's Son," CUTLER; Processional Hymn—"Adeste Fideles;" Venite—8th Gregorian Tone; Te Deum Laudamus, Jubilate Deo—from Service in D major; Introit, Selection 68, (five verses,) to a Choral by REDHEAD; Kyrie and Gloria Tibis, from Service in D; Hymn 45: "Hark the Herald Angels Sing;" Ascription—"Glory to God in the Highest," MOZART; Offertory—Christmas Hymn, (*Cantique de Noel*,) ADOLPH ADAM; Carol: "Venite Adoremus Dominum;" Ter Sanctus—from Service in D; Hymn XCV—To "Christmas," HANDEL; Gloria in Excelsis—Anthem in F major; Recessional Hymn—"Brightest and Best," AVISON.

The Church was tastefully decorated with large evergreen trees, and flowers in the chancel, and wreaths on the pulpit, lectern and font.

St. Paul's Chapel.

This chapel was decorated in the usual manner, the panels of the galleries, the organ chamber, the pulpit and the lectern being twined with evergreens. The flutings of the columns and their bases and capitals were decorated with holly. The music was rendered by the following artists: Organist, J. H. CORNELL; sopranos, Mrs. E. J. HAYNES and Miss C. RISLEY; contraltos, Misses A. L. NEEDHAM and E. RISLEY; tenors, Messrs. C. B. KING and T. HOPPER; basses, Messrs. E. J. HAYNES and J. PALMER. Carols by the children of the school; Hymn, "Shout the Glad Tidings;" "Te Deum" in E; "Benedictus" in E; "Nicene Creed" in E; "Gloria in Excelsis" in E; Anthem, "In this Mountain;" Offertory, "Unto us a Child is Born," J. H. CORNELL.

St. Alban's Church.

At this little edifice the services commenced at an early hour and lasted through the day. The church was prettily decorated with evergreens, and the chancel was almost covered with flowers. The musical selections performed were choice and varied.

Church of the Incarnation.

The Christmas music at this church was unusually attractive. The selections were from BUCK, MILLARD, BERGE, GUNTHER, &c., &c. The choir consisted of Mme. SABBITTI, soprano; Miss BULKLEY, contralto; Mr. ROMAYNE, tenor; Mr. REMMERTZ, basso, assisted by other voices, the whole under the direction of Mr. DODGE, organist, assisted by Mr. BABCOCK.

St. James' Church.

The interior of St. James' Protestant Episcopal Church, in East Seventy-second-street, of which Rev. C. B. SMITH is rector and superintendent, was beautifully decorated. On Christmas morning there was a children's carol, and on this evening there will be a Christmas-tree festival for the children connected with the Sunday-school.

Church of the Heavenly Rest.

The organist was C. S. FISCHER, Jr.; soprano, Miss T. LASAR; baritone, H. C. HARTLEY; contralto, Miss ETTA E. BRYAN; bass, H. G. GUILD; tenor, Mr. G. C. ROCKWOOD; alto, Master MEYER; trebles, Masters B. NASH and JOHN CROLL; Anthem, "Behold I bring you Glad Tidings," GOSS; "Te Deum" in F, KOTSCHMAR; "Benedictus," MILLARD; Hymn No. 44, E. J. HOPKINS; "Gloria," BUTTNER; Anthem and Chorus, ("Messiah,") HANDEL; "Gloria," (from the Twelfth Mass,) MOZART.

St. John's Chapel.

St. John's was most artistically decorated, though spruce boughs were the only material used. The altar was dressed with flowers. In addition to the usual musical services a grand anthem was given.

St. George's.

The organist was W. F. WILLIAMS; soprano, Master MARSTON; alto, Master DREW; tenors, Messrs. MACDONALD and DEAN; basses, Messrs. ARNOLD, POST and White, and a chorus of twenty male voices. Opening—Christmas carol and proper psalms for the day; "Gloria," JACKSON; "Te Deum," in F, A. W. BERG; "Jubilate," in E flat, JACKSON; Anthem arranged from MOZART'S No. 12; finale, organ voluntary.

Grace Church.

The organist was S. P. WARREN; soprano, Mrs. OLIVER; tenor, GEORGE SIMPSON; contralto, Mrs. EACHAU; bass, M. CLARK. "Venite," MOSENTHAL; "Gloria Patria," COSTA; "Te Deum," BUCK; "Jubilate," MOSENTHAL; recitations and chorus from the "Messiah."

Calvary Church.

The organist was J. MOSENTHAL; soprano, Mrs. CRUGER; tenor, Mr. THATCHER; contralto, Mrs. PAYNE; bass, Mr. BOSTWICK. "Venite," GREGORIAN; "Gloria Patria," HAYDN; "Te Deum," BRIDGEWATER; "Jubilate," BRIDGEWATER; Recitation and Chorus, ("Messiah,") HANDEL; Anthem, BARNBY.

Church of the Ascension.

The organist was F. F. MULLER; soprano, Mrs. HATTIE FARNSWORTH; tenor, Dr. A. BARROWS; contralto, Mrs. AYERS; bass, A. TROST. Introit, "Sing unto God," NOVELLO; Christmas Chant, J. TURLE; "Gloria Patria," MOZART; "Te Deum Laudamus," MERCADANTE; "Benedictus," LAMBILLOTTE; Hymn, MENDELSSOHN; "Gloria Tibi," MULLER; Recitation and Chorus, ("Messiah,") HANDEL.

Church of the Holy Apostles.

The organist was CHARLES S. FISCHER; soprano, Master G. MEEKE; alto, Master T. HYMES; tenor, J. H. WESTERVELT; bass, W. H. HARDEN, and a chorus of male voices.

Grace Chapel.

The organist was JOSEPH T. HARRIS; Choir—A quartet of soloists and chorus of volunteers belonging to the church. Processional, "Adeste Fideles;" "Venite," MENDELSSOHN; "Te Deum," J. T. HARRIS; "Benedictus," CLELAND. Offertory, MOSENTHAL. Director and Choir Master, L. H. DOWN.

Anthon Memorial.

The organist was SAMUEL JACKSON; soprano, Mrs. G. F. HASS; tenor, R. H. BRENEY; contralto, M. B. H. JOHNSTON; bass, H. SCHWICARDI. Opening hymn, "Shout the Glad Tidings," AVISON; "Venite," (chant,) S. JACKSON; "Gloria Patria," (anthem,) S. JACKSON; "Grand Te Deum," in A, S. JACKSON; "Jubilate," (E flat,) S. JACKSON; Introit, "And There Were Shepherds," H. MILLARD; "Kyrie" and "Gloria Tibi," S. JACKSON; Offertory, (hymn 45,) MOZART; Offertory, soprano solo, GOUNOD.

Church of the Redeemer.

The organist and choir-master was Mr. J. E. BURWOOD; choir of boys. Processional, "Shout the Glad Tidings;" "Venite," SAVAGE; "Te Deum" in A, HAMMOND; "Jubilate," TURLE; Introit, "O Come all ye faithful;" "Kyrie," TOURS; Anthem, "Hallelujah, for unto us a child is born," MONK; Offertory, "He shall feed His flock," HANDEL; Hymn, "Bread of the World;" Antiphon, M. DIMITTA'S "Recessional Hymn."

Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

The organist was Mr. M. B. MERRICK; trebles and altos, Masters Shope, Hodge, Thonger, McKewrie, Sperry, Dunkelwie, Bleecker, Rowland, and Biking; tenor, J. TUTTLE SMITH; bass, H. A. STEWART. Processional, "All hail the power of Jesus' name;" chant, "Venite," SAVAGE; "Te Deum" in A, TUCKER; "Benedictus," HARRIS; "Introit," Christmas; "Kyrie" and "Gloria Tibi" in C, D. HODGES; hymn, AVISON; full communion service; recessional hymn.

Church of Our Lord.

The organist was Miss SCARDEFIELD; soprano Miss E. MACREADY; tenor, R. W. GARDENER; contralto, Miss M. CURRY; bass, W. H. DOVENOR. The tree service of the Episcopal Church was given with appropriate music.

Reformed Dutch Church, New-York.

At the South Reformed Church, on Fifth-avenue and Twenty-first-street, the Te Deum in B flat of "Shout the Glad Tidings," was sung. "O, Holy Night," a Christmas piece by ADOLPH ADAM.

St. Bartholomew.

Organist, ANTONIO L. MORA; soprano, Miss J. GAYLORD; tenor, W. J. HILL; contralto, Mrs. B. BOWLER; baritone, A. LAWRENCE, and Chorus Quartet. "Venite," and "Gloria" (new); "Te Deum" in C, with baritone solo; "Jubilate," E flat, with solo for tenor, and duo for soprano and alto, A. L. MORA; grand organ voluntary.

St. Patrick's R. C. Cathedral.

The Christmas services at St. Patrick's Cathedral were unusually impressive and grand. The altar was illuminated with the glow of hundreds of tapers, and the fragrance of the flowers which garlanded it, combined with the perfume of incense, brought to the memory the stories of the day as the ancients were wont to celebrate it. At 5 o'clock in the morning mass was said, and high mass was performed at 10½. The church was crowded to overflowing. The officiating clergymen were Archbishop McCLOSKEY, Vicar-General STARRS, Rev. Fathers McNAMEE, KING, McNIERNEY and GABLEY. A sermon on the gospel of the day was preached by one of the Jesuit Fathers. The music was extremely fine, being under the direction of Mr. GUSTAVUS SCHMITZ, the organist, and Mr. HENRY SCHMITZ, the conductor. MOZART'S Twelfth Mass was performed, in which the following solo singers took part: Mme. CHOME, soprano; Mrs. UNGER, alto; Mr. CHOACHIMI, tenor, and Mr. NURCHE, basso. The St. Patrick's Choral Union, numbering thirty voices, sang the choruses. The finest parts of the mass are the "Gloria," chorus; "Qui tollis," solo, quartet and chorus; "Cum sancto," fugue for chorus; in the credo the "Et incarnatus," tenor solo and chorus. At the offertory "O salutaris," by ROSSINI, was sung by Mme. CHOME. At the elevation "Ecce panis," by PROCH, was sung by Mrs. GROSE, with French horn accompaniment. Mrs. UNGER sang "Veni" before the sermon. At 4 o'clock there were vespers.

St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church.

St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church in Barclay-street, was tastefully festooned with evergreens, and had a large quantity of flowers upon its altar yesterday. Crowds were present at each of the masses, at the last one particularly. At that mass Rev. M. J. O'FARRELL acted as celebrant, Very Rev. Dr. CROKE, of San Francisco, as deacon, Rev. W. QUINN, pastor of the Church, as sub-deacon, and Rev. A. L. VALOIS, of Montreal, as master of ceremonies. Rev. N. C. O'FARRELL preached a sermon on the lessons taught by the coming of the Savior. The orchestra did not seem to be quite as full as on previous Christmas celebrations, though the music was quite as good. A collection was taken up for the orphan asylum, the amount subscribed being quite large.

Holy Trinity of Harlem.

At the Holy Trinity Church, Harlem, of which Rev. W. NELSON McVICKAR is rector, services commenced at 10½ A. M. The musical services included a pastoral symphony on the organ, "There Were Shepherds," (solo from "The Messiah;") chorus, "Glory to God;" anthem, "Behold a Virgin," and chorus, "O Thou that Tellest," (from the "Messiah;") hymn, "Hark, the Herald Angels;" the hallelujah chorus and hymn No. 149. In the grand chorus from the "Messiah" the choir was assisted by a large number of ladies and gentlemen of the congregation and others, who volunteered their aid. The choir consists of Miss ROBINIO FARRELL, soprano; Miss BERNA HUHN, alto; Mr. W. H. TERHUNE, tenor; Mr. E. R. ALMY, bass. Mr. GEO. F. BRISTOW is organist.

Sunday-School Festivals.

The spirit of benevolence and joyousness which characterizes the "day of days," as observed in this City, was more noticeable, perhaps, in the Sunday-school gatherings which took place yesterday, than in any other Christmas celebrations. The power which attracts children to the Sunday-school room was well illustrated in the care

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GENERAL NEWS.

Organization of the Senate Committee on Retrenchment.

Proposal to Do Away with Telegraph Wires and Cables.

A Prize-Fighter Stabbed in the Ring by His Antagonist.

Destructive Storms Reported Throughout California.

Dangerous Condition of the President's Father.

Terrible Railroad Bridge Accident in Iowa.

WASHINGTON AFFAIRS.

The Senate Retrenchment Committee—A New Experiment in Telegraphing—No Wires or Cables Necessary.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—There still seems to be an impression in some quarters that the Senate Retrenchment Committee, as finally agreed upon, contains but one Democrat. This is an error, as Mr. CASSERLY was chosen to take the place of Mr. POOL, who declined, and, with Mr. BAYARD, gives the Democratic Party double the usual representation on a Senate committee.

A NEW TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

On the last day before the adjournment of Congress for the recess Mr. [illegible] introduced into the House a bill for the incorporation of an aerial telegraph company, and it was referred to the Committee on Commerce. According to the terms of the bill the business and objects of said corporation shall be to develope and utilize the principles and powers of natural electricity to be used in telegraphing, generating light, heat and motive power, but the plain and specific purpose of the corporation is for a company to test certain theories which have been carefully elaborated by scientific men connected with the subject of telegraphing. It is believed from the experiments that have been made that it is possible to telegraph all over and around the world without the use of cables or conducting wires of any description, or even batteries. The proposition, viewed in the abstract, seems rather visionary. But those whose duty it has been to examine the subject are so much interested and impressed with the grandeur of its possibilities that the author is hopeful of having an opportunity of trying to send signals across the Pacific Ocean during the next year.

PRIZE FIGHTING.

Disgraceful Row in a Prize Ring—One of the Principals Stabbed.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

SCRANTON, PA., Dec. 25.—A disgraceful prize fight took place in Hyde Park yesterday afternoon. At the close of the first round, one of the combatants, named MICHAEL QUINN, stabbed his adversary in the right eye, ending the fight in a general row.

THE PACIFIC COAST.

Great Storm Throughout California—Immense Destruction of Property.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23.—A severe rain-storm, with a south-west gale, set in last night and continues unabated. The rain-fall to date is 15 20-100 inches, which is 120-100 more than last year. Fears are entertained of a general flood should the storm continue.

The ship Windward was dismasted in a gale at the mouth of the Columbia River.

The steamer *U. S. Grant* was driven ashore near Astoria and is a total loss.

Much other damage was done to the shipping on the northern coast. It is now certain that the bark *Lew Yeates* and schooner *Amanda Ager* are lost with all on board.

The Tule country, opposite Sacramento, is being flooded from the Sacramento River. Half of Stockton, Gilroy and San José are flooded.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—The storm has subsided. The reclamation levees and dumps in the Tule lands of San Joquin and Sacramento River have withstood the storm successfully. The reclamation enterprise has received much favor. Millions of dollars will be spent in the Tule reclamation project this season.

United States Senator-elect A. A. SARGENT has left for Washington overland.

Trains now arrive at Sacramento from the East regularly.

JESSE R. GRANT.

Dangerous Condition of the President's Father.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 25.—JESSE R. GRANT'S condition has changed but little since Saturday. He can talk more distinctly, but is quite feeble, and his mind continues to wander. His recovery is considered very doubtful.

DEATH ON THE RAIL.

Fatal Accident on the Burlington and Cedar Rapids Railroad.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, Dec. 25.—On Saturday night, a passenger train, bound North, on the Burlington, Cedar Rapids and Minnesota Railroad, broke through the bridge over Shell Rock River at Rockford Station, Iowa, precipitating the engine, caboose, baggage-car and one coach down twenty-five feet. JAMES JUDD, the engineer, BARTLETT, a brakeman, and ROBERT WHITE, the firemen, were instantly killed. The baggage-master had his leg broken, and the express-messenger was seriously, though not dangerously injured. Surgeons were at once sent from Cedar Rapids to their relief, and returned to that place, Sunday, with the dead and wounded.

FRANCE.

Overtures Made to the Legitimists by the Right Centre—The Orleans Princes.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—The members of the Right Centre in the National Assembly having made overtures to the Legitimists for a coalition, the latter in reply say they will probably coalesce, but at the same time will reserve their right of action. They also announce their disapproval of the Orleanist Princes as leaders.

SPAIN AND CUBA.

Proposed Reform in the Cuba Volunteer System—Reinforcements to Sail at Once.

MADRID, Dec. 25.—Admiral TOPETE, Minister of the Colonies, has announced his intention of making a reform in the volunteer organization in Havana. Reinforcements continue to go forward to Cuba to aid in the suppression of the insurrection on that island.

The meeting of the Cortes has been postponed until the 20th of January.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

AMERICANISMS: the English of the New World. By M. SCHELE DE VERE, LL. D. 8vo. pp. 608. New-York: CHARLES SCRIBNER & CO.

The author of this book is advertised upon its title-page as Professor of Modern Languages in the University of Virginia, and author of *Studies in English*. With the merits of the latter book we confess ourselves entirely unacquainted; and our examination of this one has not awakened in us a very keen desire to know the other. Prof. DE VERE'S name, too, is a puzzle to us. Is he an English DE VERE; is the "M." an abbreviation of a Christian name; or are there French DE VERES, of whom he is one, and is his "M." the accepted abbreviation of *Monsieur*, which he clings to and honestly puts forth as a token of his nationality? In support of the former supposition he writes in his preface of "the admirable qualities of the speech of our fathers," of "the task allotted to us," and of how "we" do it; but judging from the work before us we should say that the latter supposition was the correct one, and that the author is a Frenchman of intelligence, culture, taste and some literary dexterity, who may be very well acquainted with all modern languages, and their literatures, except the one in which and about which he has undertaken to write.

His preface, indeed, is lacking in the essential quality of a preface—the setting forth of the purpose of the book which it ushers in. But at this, after reading the book, our surprise passes away; for notwithstanding the formal and apparently systematic arrangement of topics—beginning with "The Indian" and going through "Immigrants from Abroad," "The Great West," "The Church," "Politics," "On the Rail," &c., there seems to have been no other purpose than to write a book, more or less readable, and more or less accurate about (in the author's phrase) speaking English and talking American,—whatever that may mean.

The author's plan is a good one. It would be well to show what influence the Aboriginal man of this soil, and, after him, the successive immigrants, the Spaniard, the Frenchman, the Hollander, the Negro, the German, and the Heathen Chinee have had upon the English tongue as spoken here, and how these modifications have manifested themselves in various ways in the East, the West, the North and the South, and what phraseology is peculiar to the Church, to politics, to trade, to seamanship, and to the roughs and rowdies of America. To do this certain qualifications are necessary, industry and a taste for linguistic studies, which the author shows; and, most important, a knowledge of English, past and present, an intuitive mastery of its idiom, and a sympathetic apprehension of the meaning of phrases peculiar to America; and these M. DE VERE has shown that he does not possess—possess at any rate in that degree which entitles him to assume the position of a teacher on the subject. His book seems to be the production of a clever man, who has somewhat hurriedly and voraciously read himself up upon a subject which is foreign to his habits of thought and speech, and to the tone of his mind. Leaving special philological criticism to philologers, we shall only bring M. DE VERE'S book, with the aid of a dictionary and a Shakspeare, to the test of that acquaintance with Americanisms, and particularly of the English language, which every American assumes to be his in virtue of his birthright, and we shall merely remark upon the passages that we have noticed in their order in the volume.

Mr. DE VERE tells us that "the famous nursery song, 'Hickory Dickory Dock,' is said to contain a sly allusion to the hickory switch not unfrequently used instead of the classic rod." Said by whom? Surely not by any one who knows the fact that this rhyme was used by English children, in England, to "count out" by, in games, long before the word hickory was known in the language. All that was sought was a jingle; and the rhyme was as often *Dickory*, dickory, as Hickory, dickory. So no one "to the manner born" would define a *cruller* as "a strip of sweetened dough which is boiled in lard, and *then* curled up at the two ends." All the curling of a cruller must be done before its boiling, after which it is as brittle as a pipe-stem. The assertion that "the term *department* has here the *special* meaning of one of the principal branches of Government, the Treasury, &c.," shows an ignorance that the word is so used in England. In one of TROLLOPE'S earlier novels a martinet among the Tite-Barnacles, is expounding and says, "The Treasury is a department; the Home Office is a department," &c. [We quote from memory.] The conclusion that the word *filibuster* must have made its way rapidly in England (after the Lopez expedition in 1852) because it is found in use in 1868, implies ignorance that the word is to be found in English literature many generations older. And what can Mr. DE VERE mean by indicating *snuffed out* as an Americanism, or any ism, and by quoting the expression "having my light snuffed out," (it being killed,) as an example? It is merely a figurative phrase likely to be used by any one who has seen candles put out, and which has been used by hundreds of men on both sides of the ocean. In his remarks upon the slang phrase *sugar off*, M. DE VERE exhibits that capacity to misunderstand language which particularly unfits him for the task he has assumed. He says, "even the verb to sugar off is derived from the custom of eating the maple sugar as it is poured off in its hot state, &c." Nothing of the kind. To sugar off, as it would seem that any one must know, is to wind up the sugaring, to stop the sugar making for the season. Hence, and hence only, the use of it in the first example quoted by our author—"it is estimated that his estate would sugar off, as they say in Vermont, about $200,000." That is, the estate, when wound up, would be worth $200,000. The phrase is like "work off," "sell off," and the like, as any one in whose mind the English idiom springs naturally would know untold. M. DE VERE'S illustration of the slang phrase "one-horse" is singularly unfortunate in one respect. "Dr. O. W. HOLMES," we are told, "delights his readers by his one-horse shay, *and* a witty clergyman of Boston once inveighed bitterly against timid, sneaking one-horse oaths," and again, "O. W. HOLMES has made the one-horse shay famous by his popular poems, *and* the term is *now* applied to anything small and insignificant." Dr. HOLMES' whimsical poem had about as much to do with the slang in question as the axle of the "shay" had with the calling of Boston the Hub of the Universe. The phrase "a one-horse town," "a one-horse concern," has come up very recently, and since, and in consequence of the flood of wealth and extravagance which has poured over the land. When Dr. HOLMES' one-horse shay began to go, and even when he wrote about it a two-horse shay would have been a curiosity, and a two-horse pleasure vehicle of any kind in the country was rarely seen. But what shall we say when a man who undertakes to teach us about Americanisms, explains HAYNE'S "How Jimmy Bludsoe pass'd in his checks," as meaning that Western worthy had died in a checkered fabric of cotton!" Imagine the richness of Jim Bludsoe's blasphemy at hearing such an exegesis. Only a very eminent and thorough ignorance of his subject could have led an author into such a blunder. To the author's assertion that the word "spire" is hardly ever heard in America we must oppose a plump denial, without desiring to assert the same thing, that many persons do say "steeple." And as we are near the church, we will say here that the opinion that "the American minister uses better English than any other class of professional men," is entirely too general and sweeping. There is not worse English heard from any class of men, with any pretensions to education, than from a large proportion of those who receive from some quarter the right to style themselves reverend. To jump from religion to war: M. DE VERE is professor in a Virginia College, but can we err in the opinion that the Confederates used to call their own flag "the Stars and Bars," instead of applying that name, as he says they did, to the flag of the Union? We are told that the offensive slang term "pickings and stealings," for the perquisites of office, "is taken from the habit of loafers and thieves to loiter about the wharves of seaport towns, and of picking out flakes of cotton from the bales," &c. Certainly. What could be clearer? And how manifest the Americanism! It must have been from HAMLET'S habit of loafing around Boston long-wharf for cotton and coffee that he said, "Yes, by these pickers and stealers." It would hardly seem that more thorough acquaintance with politics and political slang was necessary to save M. DE VERE from telling his readers that a politician "unmerciful to his adversaries, and inexorable in exacting every inch of his followers, is called dyed in the wool." That phrase has, could have, nothing to do with the character of the man to whom it was applied. It refers simply to length of time that he has held his opinions. If a man has been a Democrat from his youth up, he is said to be a Democrat dyed in the wool, the comparison being to the coloring of wool before it is woven into cloth. As far from the purpose are the remarks on "soap-lock," as to which M. DE VERE uses the present tense, *is*, and says first that it is the name of a lock of hair which is made to lie smoothly "by means of soap," and next, that "it is the descendant of the cavalier's side-lock." One of these assertions is about as true as the other. Soap was not used, but some kind of pomatum or "into-ment," and the name soap-lock was used only in derision. There was not the connection of a hair between the cavalier's side-lock and the soap-lock. The supposition is absurd. The latter was a fashion that started up of itself, and grew out of nothing but the wearer's heads, on which and in which it had no ancient germ. And to show how superfluous is the record of such trivialities, although it was common, but beginning to go out fifteen years ago, it is now unknown. One may walk from one end of the Bowery to the other without seeing a soap-lock, and the word has passed entirely out of use. Among these soap-locks the use of "bully" in a laudatory sense was common at least five or ten years before the civil war in which Mr. DE VERE erroneously finds the origin of that rude *façon de parler*. Any New-York man or boy could have set him right there. Perhaps the most remarkable of our author's manifestations of ignorance—ignorance of etymology, of literature and of folk-speech—is the following passage which appears in the maritime division of his book, which he somewhat fancifully entitles "Afloat:"

"The *keel* itself serves in various along the sea-coast to name any bread, flat vessel used for many a domestic purpose; it is the *keeler* or *keeler-tub* of the New-England States, the vessel in which the dishes are washed, and to which J. R. LOWELL refers when he says:

'And greasy Joan doth keel the pot.'"

No one, we may be sure, will be more astonished than J. R. LOWELL to see him credited with this line from W. SHAKESPEARE'S well-known and beautiful Spring and Winter song in "Love's Labor Lost," of the second part of which this is the burden:

"Then nightly sings the staring owl,
Tu-whit, tu-whoo, a merry note,
While greasy Joan doth keel the pot."

And "keel" here has no more to do with the keel of a vessel than the Jim Bludsoe's checks had with a checked shirt. A man who undertook to write about the English language should have known that "keel" here means simply *cool*, and that it is a modern form of the Anglo-Saxon *colan*. The word appears also in "keel-vat," a vat in which liquors are cooled, and also in "keeler-tub," a name not confined to New-England, and which has no connection whatever with tubs (sailing or other) that have keels. But it seems enough for Mr. DE VERE to find the same letters and the same sound in his search for etymology.

We must bring our running critical remarks upon this book to a speedy close, but cannot pass over a few of the many errors in the important division, "Old Friends With New Faces." Mr. DE VERE is certainly right in saying that "aggravate" in the sense of irritate is not an Americanism, but as certainly wrong in saying that it is "not improperly" thus used. To aggravate means to add weight to, to increase; ills may be aggravated, irritation may be aggravated, but not persons. Nor is "bazaar" a word "for which America is indebted to Mrs. TROLLOPE, who established the first in Cincinnati." This word was in common use before Mrs. TROLLOPE was born. It appears in old English dictionaries, and in WEBSTER'S edition of 1828. The assertion that "cattle" is "in America rarely used for any other beasts than those of the bovine genus" will astonish M. DE VERE'S rural readers, none more than Mr. Solon Shingle, who, having lost his horses, runs about asking if any one has seen his "eahttil." Remarking upon the use of "job" to mean a good thing obtained by secret influence or unfair means, M. DE VERE adds "nor has England been able to prevent its introduction." But this use of the word came to us from English politicians. A Cabinet Minister under the Prince Regent (we forget his name) told poor HAYDON that RAPHAEL'S engagement to decorate the Vatican was "a job, a rare job," and the word was commonly so used long before that time. Here it is of comparatively late introduction. The assertion that "like" instead of "as" is "almost exclusively an Americanism," is as erroneous as the citation of the following sentence as an example of such use: "I. did not feel like saying another word, &c." The misuse in question is common among careless and ignorant speakers everywhere, and nowhere more common than in England; and would M. DE VERE say, "I would not feel *as* saying another word?" And now we come to another of those evidences of ignorance of the English language and literature which astonish us, in a book written by a Professor of language in an English-speaking country. We quote the passage in full:

"'Nose' is in old Scotch and certain parts of New-England for stocks (as at least ancient authority tells us) HAWTHORNE quotes:

'The dish-clout dries the cup and plate;
And thereto serves the sark of coarse thread;
The good wife saves of her smock,
And at the fox she throw her rock.'"

This is amazing. What the good wife threw at the fox was—her distaff! for which rock was the old English name, as any reader of old ballads knows. The word is not omitted even from the Webster Dictionary of 1828. The pronoun—"her rock"—should have caused M. DE VERE at least to doubt, unless he supposed every old woman used to go about with her special rock in her pocket, as some men go now with brides in their hats. But, as in the case of "cheek" and "keel," the same letters and the same sound made for him the same word; they were the limit of his knowledge. M. DE VERE'S assertion that "spurt" in the sense of a sudden and vigorous effort, "is a perversion of spirit," is a very unhappy exhibition of his etymological powers. "Spirit," indeed, is vulgarly pronounced *spurit*; but even if that was of any importance, what connection is there between the ideas expressed by the two words. *Spurt*, meaning a sudden, vigorous effort, is the same word as *spurt*, meaning a sudden spout of water. Its original or at least its conexer is "sprout." And what could have led M. DE VERE to say that "tease has taken in America the place of the English verb to chaff." "Chaff" is slang, unmitigated slang, in England as well as here, although it is admitted into the best society, and it is a new word, while "tease," meaning to scratch, to irritate, to worry, to vex by jests and raillery, has been in common use among English-speaking people since the time of HENGIST and HORSA. To discover all this about "tease" and "spurt" and the other examples above cited, we have not had, nor would M. DE VERE have had, to look far, only into the last edition of that excellent and useful book, much belabored by Mr. CHARLEY WHITE, (and in some respects not unjustly,) *Webster's Dictionary*. Indeed M. DE VERE has gone wrong continually in regard to the simplest and plainest matters, both as to language and literature.

His own writing also shows his unfitness for the task he has undertaken. His English is very bad, both in the use of words and in the construction of the sentence. This may be seen in the passages above quoted. His book is also filled with such blunders as "admirable and exhausting work," page 4, meaning exhaustive; "different to," page 15, meaning different from; "a genuine Americanism in every sense is the moose," page 53, meaning "moose," the word; *the moose is American*, but hardly an Americanism; "every," followed by a plural instead of a singular relative, page 350; "any number of small glasses of liquor"—page 316—meaning many small glasses, &c. "irreverend Confederates called the hideous-looking vessels cheese-boxes"—page 333—meaning irreverent Confederates; "the case of a vessel was discussed before that tribunal, which had been brought home, after the master's death, by his brave widow," page 339, M. DE VERE doubtless means that the widow brought home the vessel, not the tribunal; "the former is nothing but the well-known Norfolk whine, the proverbial annoyance of visitors from the shires," page 497, the author doubtless means to the shires; "bonny clabber, quoted already by BEN JONSON in the lines," &c., on page 444, meaning, used by BEN. JONSON; he did not quote the word, and this use of "already" for previously, heretofore, we think betrays that our author is a Frenchman who still thinks in French. But what can be his excuse for saying that "bamsuabbled" is "rarely *heard* except in humorous *writings*"—page 581? His book is full of such misuses of English as this; they may be found on almost every page; surely such a writer should not be accepted as a discriminator between normal and abnormal English. In brief, and to conclude, M. DE VERE is indeed often right, but so often wrong, and wrong in just such a way, that his book, although an interesting collection of scraps and odds and ends, without thought or philological suggestion, is utterly worthless as a guide and an authority upon any English, either that of the Old World or of the New.

MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS, AND HER LATEST ENGLISH HISTORIAN. By JAMES F. MELINE. New-York: HURD & HOUGHTON.

In a singular outburst of ingenuousness, Mr. FROUDE once wrote: "It often seems to me as if History was like a child's box of letters, with which we can spell any word we please." Whatever else this sentence may mean—for it is infinitely prolific in suggestion—one thing is certain, that it betrays in the mind of the writer far greater self-distrust in the work with which his name is associated, than would naturally flow from a belief in human fallibility. Such being the case, it cannot be wholly displeasing to him to find with what cheerful alacrity his opinions concerning himself have been concurred in by many, if not most, of his critical readers. The delineation of character, while it affords and even invites a more unembarrassed use of the imagination than any other form of historical writing, is also the most vulnerable, from the ease with which errors both of statement and judgment can be detected. By some unfortunate fatality, it is in this particular that Mr. FROUDE has repeatedly exhibited his liability to err, and in no case more fully than in his persistent defamation of MARY STUART. The curious reconstruction of HENRY VIII., and the excessive laudation of Queen ELIZABETH, coming under the ruling of an old proverb, can be pardoned on the ground of charity if not of truth; but the case of the unhappy Queen of Scots is entirely different; the spirit with which he writes of her is so evidently partisan, that a denial and disproval of his statements may well take the air of honest indignation.

Though not the first to leap into the lists in defense of the honor of this much-abused woman, Mr. MELINE can fairly claim to be her American champion. His book is grounded on a series of reviews of Mr. FROUDE'S history, written for the *Catholic World*, and which he has expanded, with his opportunities of obtaining accurate information, into the present form. Before treating definitely of Mr. MELINE'S book, we wish to state that he, too, is rabidly partisan in his defense; gliding with easy rapidity over certain events in the life of MARY that might not bear favorable investigation; while he judges and condemns the conduct of the men with whom she is thrown in contact by an ethical standard of the present day. Indeed, in this latter respect he injures his cause by the universality of his denunciation. The nobility, gentry and clergy of Scotland, with hardly an exception, are characterized respectively as murderers, ruffians, and bigots; this, too, of the principal men of an age which, more than any other, contributed to the present prosperity and stability of that country.

The book opens with an acknowledgment of the brilliancy and grace with which Mr. FROUDE writes, but also, as an introduction into the main theme, shows how superficially his history is written, by convicting him of a dozen or more gross errors of ignorance and misrepresentation. The broadest is that which MARY, on which Mr. FROUDE first tells us that "the historical evidence is overwhelming," and then proceeds to ignore it, while he accepts the "account up amidst the political iniquities of the Court of CATHERINE DE MEDICIS,"—thus in a word suggesting to the reader that from her youth she was an adept in those practices that rendered the Court of that Queen the most infamous in Europe. But one critic very clearly shows that it was not until after MARY left France that CATHARINE had a Court, and that while she remained there, neither the influence nor example of the latter were in any way inimical to her moral character. Undoubtedly MARY landed in Scotland under unusually trying circumstances, and it also seems that her conduct in public and private affairs, certainly until after the death of RICCIO, was unimpeachable; but we must demur to the assumption of her defender, "that she was eminently tolerant and liberal" in her religious views. True, she may not have joined the Catholic League for the extirpation of Protestantism in Europe, but prudential considerations would have dictated this course to one in her position; and to urge religious toleration among her own subjects was at best but a negative virtue, since the great majority, both of the nobility and common people, were opposed to Roman Catholicism.

Mr. MELINE is far more successful in clearing Queen MARY from the public and scandalous connection with BOTHWELL, in which Mr. FROUDE and other historians have placed her, than he is in freeing her from complicity in the murder of DARNLEY. In the former case he exposes the false statements and garbled quotations made by Mr. FROUDE, and the erroneous inferences drawn therefrom, in an effective manner. If MARY STUART was guilty of a criminal affection for BOTHWELL, it was by no means as coarsely defiant in its openness as we have often been taught to believe, but even her avowed champion has not succeeded in disproving it entirely, as we will show further on. In defending MARY from the charge of being a party to the murder of DARNLEY, Mr. MELINE exposes one of Mr. FROUDE'S ingenious attempts to prove her guilt:

"We now come to the great incident as Craigmillar, which is thus related: One morning MURRAY and MAITLAND (let the reader here follow MR. FROUDE's narrative) went to ARGYLE, and asked Their counsel as to the means of obtaining MORTON's pardon for the Riccio murder. MAITLAND suggested that the best way is to persuade the Queen to find means to divorce her from DARNLEY. ARGYLE does not see how it can be done. MAITLAND says: 'We shall find the means. These three next to HUNTLY and BOTHWELL, who have in hand all the affairs of the Queen, who, Mr. FROUDE, on his own authority —says, 'was craving for release.' Thus far our historian adheres with, for him, wonderful fidelity to the only authority (protestation of HUNTLY and ARGYLE) we have for an account of this interview; but, as usual, the moment MARY STUART appears, the historian and his authorities are arrayed in open hostility. MAITLAND suggested to the Queen that if she would consent to pardon MORTON and his companions in exile, means might be found to obtain a divorce between her and DARNLEY. HUNTLY and ARGYLE represent MARY as saying 'that if a lawful divorce might be obtained without prejudice to her son, she might be induced to consent to it.' Of this, the very free translation made 'she said generally she would do what they required.' Then came the question where the King should reside, which is met by the Queen's suggestion that, instead of seeking a divorce, she herself should retire a while to France, (she had entertained the same project upon the birth of her child at Stirling,) which was warmly opposed by MAITLAND in these very significant words: 'Do not imagine, Madame, that we, the principal nobility of the realm, shall not find the way of ridding your Majesty of him without prejudice to your son,' &c.; the rest substantially, as in FROUDE, as to MURRAY's 'looking through his fingers and saying nothing.' This is at page 356, and the average reader is already supplied at page 349 with the theory Mr. FROUDE desires to apply to the Jedburgh and Craigmiller incidents.

"But MARY herself,' dramatically exclaims one writer, 'how did she receive the dark suggestion?' 'This part of the story rests on the evidence of her own friends'—reader being supposed by Mr. FROUDE to be ignorant of the fact that *this every part of the story* rests on the same testimony, that of HUNTLY and ARGYLE—'She said, he continues, 'not one especial attention to this—she said 'she would do nothing to touch her honor and conscience;' *'they had better leave it alone,'* meaning to do her good, it might turn to her hurt and displeasure.' This is an ingenious piece of work. 'They had better leave it alone,' is one of Mr. FROUDE'S inventions, and these broken sentences are so marshaled as to present to the reader the picture of a guilty person who receives a criminal suggestion and replies somewhat incoherently, but so as to convey this idea: There, there, we understand each other perfectly; go and do the deed. Such impression is inevitably conveyed, and intended by the writer to be conveyed.

The *Saturday Review* states his offense with mild sarcasm by saying that "Mr. FROUDE does not seem to have fully grasped the nature of inverted commas." Of course MARY STUART never spoke the words thus put in her mouth. There is according to ARGYLE and HUNTLY, in her reply to MAITLAND—a reply in perfect harmony with her habitual elevation of sentiment and dignity and bearing:

"'I will that you do nothing through which any spot may be laid on my honor or conscience; and, therefore, I pray you rather let the matter be in the state that it is, desiring till God of his goodness put remedy thereto.'"

Judge ye!

The historian then follows up this remarkable citation with a pregnant 'may be,' two 'perhaps,' both prolific, and a line or two of poetry, all of which are supposed to convict MARY STUART of asking the gentlemen in her presence 'to oblige her by murdering DARNLEY.' To confirm the accusation he says 'the secret was ill kept, and reached the ears of the Spanish Ambassador,' and cites a passage from DE SILVA'S letter, which he abstains from translating. The prudence is not ill-timed, for his citation, so far from confirming, flatly contradicts his statements."

This is but one instance out of dozens we might cite, in which Mr. MELINE not only discomfits, but fairly demolishes, the historian. The tinsel and coloring with which many of the characters have been bedecked, are most vigorously washed off, and the assumption of knowledge as to their unexpressed thoughts and desires is exposed in an absolutely cruel manner. Certain it is that Mr. MELINE has the field all to himself, though one cannot help feeling while reading his arguments that he proves too much. At the death of DARNLEY, and the subsequent marriage of the Queen with BOTHWELL, there is a noticeable change in the strength of the argument, and he seems to centre his efforts more upon proving that the nobles were guilty—a very probable supposition—than that MARY was innocent. Then he passes on to her trial for the murder in England. Here he makes a singular blunder, which in our opinion militates greatly against his previous assertions. The case in point, is in reference to the letters that were produced at the trial, purporting to have been written by MARY to BOTHWELL. Of these he says: "MARY STUART'S guilt cannot possibly be proven unless we accept the forged casket letters as genuine. If they are admitted, we have no choice but to look upon the Queen of Scots as a most wicked and depraved woman." In another place: "The only letters of importance, as testimony against the Queen, are the two first, and they are conclusively proven, by GOODAL and Elder LETTS, more than a century ago, to have been written originally in Scotch. *But Mary Stuart could not write the Scotch language.*" On what authority he makes this latter assertion he does not tell us, but its force is completely invalidated by a letter from MARY to MURRAY of Abercearne, which, some hundred pages back, he publishes in full, and gives as authentic, and which is so purely Scotch that we have not been able yet to solve all its dialectical mysteries. Now either MARY could "write the Scotch language" or she could not. If she could, it would seem highly probable that these damnatory epistles may have been written by her; if she could not, then the letter proved to have been written by her by Mr. MELINE, "To our Trusty Friend, Robert MELRAME of Allanstane," is a palpable forgery, while he decides other writings against Mr. MELINE, in his defense in this particular instance is broken down.

There can be but one honest opinion as to the manner in which MARY bore her imprisonment and met her death, and we cordially indorse Mr. MELINE in the just tribute of admiration he pays her in describing them both. Though, as we said before, we cannot agree with him in his assertion as to the entire innocence of MARY, we have to thank him for having cleared away many doubts concerning her.

OFF THE TRACK.

Worst Accident on the Cincinnati and Indianapolis Junction Railroad—A Passenger-Train Thrown From the Track—Three Men Killed and Many Wounded.

From the Cincinnati Commercial, Dec. 23.

The passenger-train over the Cincinnati and Indianapolis Junction Railroad, which left here at 7 A. M. yesterday, for Indianapolis, by the way of Hamilton, met with a terrible accident at a point thirty-one miles east of Indianapolis, and rose mile west of Burlington. Engine and train were thrown from the track, at about 12 M., by a broken rail. They ran some twenty or thirty yards after leaving the track, until they struck a bridge or trestle, when the engine was buried over on one side and the cars on the other, a distance of about twenty feet. Engine and cars were completely wrecked. The engineer, JAMES HAMILTON, of Indianapolis, was instantly killed. The conductor, M. P. FLEMING, of Hamilton, was also killed. He was in the baggage-car, and was struck by the United States Express safe, and fatally crushed. He lived only a few minutes. PAT. KILKARRY, foreman of the section on which the accident occurred, who happened to be on the train, was killed. He was in the baggage-car, and was killed by the stove falling upon him. The baggage-master, I. GOLDEN, had an arm broken.

Mr. FLENNER'S body was taken to Indianapolis, as were those also of the engineer and section foreman. The two to have been Mr. FLENNER'S help for two months, as he had obtained leave of absence for that period. He had been on the road ten years, and was well and favorably known. Mr. HAMILTON'S body was received at Indianapolis by his brother. Our special telegram from Indianapolis gives the following particulars as to injuries to passengers:

There was a large number wounded, including Fred. Drauer, Indianapolis, head and side; George Bent, Indianapolis, head, side and leg, badly. Charles Jones, Fayette County, Ohio, leg; Mr. Jesse Van Kirkpatrick, Mt. Carmel, Ill., shoulder and side, slightly; Eva May, Crawfordsville, shoulder dislocated; W. H. Mayhew, Indianapolis, shoulder; Mrs. James Young, Franklin, slightly; P. Randle, Atlantic [illegible], slightly; Hannah Hatfield, Knightstown, slightly; Sallie Harvey, cut on head; [illegible] Golden, slightly; Daniel Hasset, Connersville, Ind., Webster and George Basil, all [illegible] E. Smith, wife and son, Cincinnati, slightly; Lizzie Bell, Lebanon, slightly; Mrs. Mary Bray and son, Rushville, slightly; Katie Young, slightly; Charles Daly, Connersville, face cut; James Williamson, Indianapolis, arm broken and scalded—will die. F. W. Shrader, Nashville, burned and hip hurt; William Eickerle, slightly; Van Leningham, Colleg Corners, Ohio, slightly; wife, shoulder broken; Mr. Wickhoff and wife, Jamestown, bruised; A. J. Joyce, Indianapolis, bruised.

Panic Among Six Hundred School-Children—Terror at Their Parents.

From the Dayton (Ohio) Journal, Dec. 21.

The Second District School-house, on Perry-street, between First and Second-streets, took fire, about 9 o'clock yesterday morning. There were probably 600 little folks in it—boys and girls, of from six to sixteen years. The streets were soon filled, cold as it was, with women, who little regarded cold or dress, and men sped quickly to the scene of danger. There was a panic among the children, in spite of the brave women who had charge of them, and the little ones fled frantically from the room where smoke and fire suddenly appalled them, and ran wildly down the streets screaming. There is good reason to praise the self-possessed women who saved the children from serious disaster. But for them the panic that prevailed for a little while would have resulted in distress to many homes. As it was, only four were hurt at all.

The fire, which did not do $50 damage, suddenly appeared with a dense volume of smoke through an old unused register in the furnace in Miss HOPKINS' (primary) room, in the southwest corner of the building, ground floor, immediately above the furnace. Miss HOPKINS endeavored to dismiss the little ones quietly, but they fled wildly from the room. Other rooms on the same floor were dismissed, and the little children fled screaming to the streets. The rooms above were disturbed by the unwonted noise, and pupils were sent to ascertain the cause. Meantime, the cause began to show itself. Smoke invaded all the rooms through the most convenient and registers, and there were cries of "Fire!" A girl from Miss WELL'S room, who had been sent down stairs with a request for less noise, came back clapping her hands in an excited way, saying, "The house is on fire." Miss WESTFALL enjoined her pupils to be quiet, went to see, and thought it advisable to stay and keep order down stairs, sending word to Miss MARY, her associate, to dismiss the senior room as orderly as possible. All this time the seniors—girls and boys of twelve to sixteen—sat quietly. When the order to retire was given, the girls went first, and the boys sat perfectly cool and collected, brave youngsters as they were, until the girls got to the stairway. At the mere sight of the girls lost of self-possession, and went down the staircase in a wild way, some of them sliding on the banisters. The boys gallantly went to the assistance of the teachers, who were striving to maintain their authority. Several excited men, however, came to add increased confusion, which led to a terrible disaster at the foot of the western stairway, where many girls and a few small boys got piled up in an indiscriminate and smothered mass. Here is where the children above named were bruised. Those who were present describe the scene, for a few moments, as terrifying. The firemen had not arrived, the school-house was filled with smoke below, smoke was streaming all over the house, and there was a fearful apprehension of fire everywhere. Meantime, a few pupils and one or two teachers, who had remained on the upper floor, were exciting people outside by flinging the books and the wrappings of the children into the street, conveying a very wild impression that the school-house was doomed. The little ones flying through the streets, girls without Winter wrappings, boys without hats, some of them shrieking with terror, some stunned by the shock, made a spectacle that we do not care to witness often. Many hearts are glad with gratitude that there was no fire elsewhere. The fright was painful enough to last many a day.

The Georgia Senators.

The efforts of the State of Georgia to be represented in the United States Senate, since the war, have been remarkable. In 1868 the Legislature elected H. V. JOHNSON and ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS to the Senate, but they were not admitted. In July, 1868, the Legislature elected JOSHUA HILL and HOWELL M. COBB to the Senate, but early following the Legislature elected Messrs. FARROW and HEZLEP to the Senate, and also elected FOSTER BLODGETT to succeed to the term which would expire in March, 1871. Still later, the Legislature elected THOS. M. NORWOOD for the term claimed by BLODGETT. The Senate refused to act upon the claims of the first-named six persons until February, 1871, when HILL and MILLER were admitted; but MILLER'S time expired on the 4th of March, ten days after his admission. Then BLODGETT appeared and was followed by NORWOOD, and the Senate has decided that BLODGETT'S election was illegal and that of NORWOOD valid.

A Louisville Hope of the Lock.

An affecting story comes from Louisville to the following effect: Two beautiful young ladies of aristocratic appearance were standing on the corner of Broadway and Fourth streets about 3 o'clock Friday afternoon, waiting for a car. One was on a shopping expedition, and the other waiting to see her off. The car came up and stopped for the passenger, who turned to her friend to give the usual good-bye kiss, when by some means her arms became entangled in the curls of her friend and, just as the car was tearing herself away, down came a huge blonde wig, falling with its mass of rich and shining curls and crimps at their feet, and revealing a head of short, dark hair, rolled up in a little knot behind, and arranged to accommodate the deceptive wig. It is needless to add ——.

Philadelphia French Ice.

From the Philadelphia Bulletin, Dec. 23.

The navigation of the Delaware has been practically closed on some days, owing to the severe weather and the mismanagement of the authorities having charge of the ice-boats. A thaw seems now to have set in, which may last long enough to clear the river of ice. But advantage should be taken of it to get the ice-boat, which has been laid up, in running order, and to bring the other one to the city to keep the harbor open, instead of having it encased towing vessels. The city has spent much money on these ice-boats, and they should be in active service in breaking up the ice at this season. They were not built for ice-boats.

FRENCH NOTES.

A Demand for "Journalistes"—English Advertisers—Cleveland Writing an Article—Reporting in the Legislature.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Saturday, Dec. 9, 1871.

It is my desire to give something of interest to all classes of readers, and to sandwich in bits of special information between the notes on political events, but in the hasty condensation of the more striking points I am nearly always apt to overrun my space. Left over from my last letter as a special item of interest to stenographers and shorthand writers, and which were suggested by a series of advertisements in a London daily journal. The last of this interesting series is as follows:

TO REPORTERS.—Wanted, a young man as shorthand reporter; must be a good paragraph and note writer, &c.; to fill up time at the case; must be able to read proof, and will have to make up the paper; salary twenty-four shillings a week.

The demands have been very materially reduced since the first of the series over the same signature, and for the same "healthy and moral neighborhood;" for the town which will do the young aspirant the honor of receiving him lies upon the coast of the English Channel, where sea-shells, sea-baths and boats by the hour are very cheap. In the first advertisement, a young man was required able to make a verbatim report, translate from the French, and take a hand at the case. Another added a qualification as to the morals of the applicant, while a third dwelt upon the fine character of the town and of its inhabitants. As the above is the fourth of the series I imagine that the "general utility man" has not yet been found, and that the place is still open. Nearly everyone who reads this paragraph will have laughed over the advertisment for a governess in *Jane Eyre*, but few believed, probably, that such brazen audacity could be found out of the pages of fiction. The present advertiser appears to be the proprietor of a religious or semi religious journal. He first demand in an assistant is "a good moral character, a member of the Church of England preferred. Would enjoy greater confidence if able to invest a few hundred pounds in the business as a guarantee," but the latter is not insisted on. In the subsequent advertisement nothing is said about the "moral character," or of the Church, but the other specifications are numerous. First, the applicant must be a verbatim reporter, or a proficient in the art, the learning of which, as Traddles remarked to David Copperfield, "is about equal to learning six languages." Secondly, he must be an educated man, for he is required to be a good paragraph writer and to translate from the French. Thirdly, he must have served his apprenticeship as a printer, for he will be required to "fill up his time" at the case. Fourthly, he must be a good proof-reader, proficient in an art which requires great scholarship, great application, and extensive reading. Fifthly, he must be able to make up a paper—that is, to have been the foreman of a printing office. No one need apply who is not proficient in all of these five different professions, and who cannot bring certificates of good moral character; but any one who can do so will be assured twenty-four shillings a week in a sea-port town where there are several churches, Sunday-schools, and good religious society. *Bien sûr* for a "local reporter," who must, according to SIDNEY SMITH, have a spice of the devil in him, and in his first exclamation he would probably send the Sunday-schools to Hades; but on second thought he might ask if one or two of the churches could not be exchanged for a few extra shillings, or if it would not be possible to hypothecate the religious society for an extra pound. Since the people of F—— seem to set so much value upon it could they not be persuaded to commute, provided the applicant was a skillful printer, a practical foreman of experience, a parliamentary stenographer, a good translator, a careful proof-reader, and A1 in religious polemics, thoroughly orthodox, and ready to swear by the thirty-nine articles, or forty of them if necessary? At any rate, that is the twenty-four shilling man they want at F——, and I only hope that they may get him.

PARIS EXPERIENCE.

As an antidote for such poison as that I have several advertisements in the different Paris journals, demanding a shorthand reporter, and nothing else, who will be paid any reasonable price. After a few trials with this bait, with which the "stenographers of the State" seemed to be unsuccessful, young men were called for to learn the art, and to any who could show an aptitude for learning "a fortune was guaranteed." There are not many stenographers in France—not as many, perhaps, as there are systems of phonography, "which can be learned in a few hours' time," yet French is much easier to report than English. Our systems of phonography are better than the French. I learned GRAHAM'S system and find it very good, but either that or PITMAN'S can be, with a very few changes, applied to the French language. In a recent trial here I reported a speech as well as the French reporters, yet could not write out my notes, but had to have a Frenchman write from dictation. Of course, this is risky, but it is with great difficulty and after many years of practice only that an Englishman or American can write correctly in French. The main changes to be introduced are certain vowel strokes, which are necessary in French, owing to their frequent occurrence. There must be a stroke for *i*, *a*, (that is, *e*, *é*, *et*, *est*, *er*, etc.) *ou*, *u*, and for the nasal vowels *on*, *an*, *un*. I find, however, two strokes, with position, sufficient for the latter four. There must also be some way of designating the sound of *o* in such words as *roi*, *loi*, *noir*, *savoir*, and that I indicate by position, or by a dash vowel sign struck through the line in phrase writing. With a few simple modifications of this kind I find our systems superior to the French, and any French lad who will learn phonography in New-York and then come here can be assured of a good position. It would be folly for an American to try it before he is able to write French correctly, and that very few have ever been able to do. He could report easily after a little practice, but he would have to read by vowel and trust to a French copyist. But to French lads of talent here is an opening, and they can learn a better system of shorthand in New-York than here.

REPORTING IN THE LEGISLATURE.

The vacancies in the corps of legislative reporters are not easy to fill, and at the present time the entire corps is greatly overworked. But they do not have to write as fast or as much as we do. It is estimated that two minutes' writing makes an average of thirty lines of the official report, that is to say, about 300 words, or, as will be seen, 150 words a minute. To a stranger the French seem to speak very fast, but such is not the case, for there are very few speakers who exceed 200 words a minute, or who reach that figure. M. DE MALLEVILLE quotes from GIBBON to show that the impetuosity of the French orator is greater than that of the English, but his argument is not based upon a sufficiently extensive examination. In the affair of WARREN HASTINGS, he says SHERIDAN and BURKE pronounced from 7,000 to 7,500 words an hour, or taking the mean, 7,300. We have 120 words a minute, while the fast French orator uses 150. But if there is no error in these figures, it is evident that neither BURKE nor SHERIDAN spoke as rapidly as the men of to-day. The French writer can do very well with that speed—150 words a minute—and he has very little consecutive writing. He stands at a high desk below the Speaker, so that he can easily turn his head toward the members. There are two classes of official writers, the *rouleurs* and the *rénovateurs*. The former stand on the left of the Speaker's desk,

EMIGRANTS' WRONGS.

Systematic Swindling by Rival Railroad Companies.

The Evil of Employing Runners—The Cost—Reforms Proposed by the Board of Commissioners—Why They are Needed.

The Commissioners of Emigration of this Port complain very loudly of the course pursued by the various railroad companies in their rivalries to secure the transportation of emigrants to the West, whereby not only are the emigrants practically robbed of a large sum of money, but the subordinates of the Commissioners and all others whom the Commissioners are compelled to admit to intercourse with the newly-arrived emigrants are greatly demoralized, and perhaps in many cases unmeaningly brought into collusion with those who prey upon these helpless, because ignorant strangers. Theoretically, the plan adopted for the protection of the emigrants from imposition is a good one. Each of the three trunk lines leading from the City to the West employs an agent within the inclosure at Castle Garden to supply tickets to emigrants. By an arrangement between the companies, devised to protect the strangers from the bewildering clamor of eager solicitation, the business is shared equally by the three routes; that is, each is allowed to transport an equal number of the passengers secured within the Garden, and when one has secured an excess of its proportion, the others are entitled to take all who arrive until the business is equalized. This arrangement applies, however, only to passengers secured within the Castle Garden inclosure. And just here is where the weak point of the system is seen.

AN OPEN FIELD FOR SPECULATION.

Each company is anxious to get all the passengers it can, and to effect that object, the City is flooded with passenger agencies, all of which sell emigrant tickets, despite the law that limits the sale of such tickets to the general office of the particular company, or to the agency established in Castle Garden, and which is under the supervision of the Commissioners. These outside offices are allowed a certain commission on all the tickets they sell. They in turn offer commissions to all those who may secure custom for them. Thus whoever brings them a company of emigrants—a single family, or a little colony of eight or ten, or any greater number—is awarded a commission of ten per cent. on the price charged for the tickets. It makes no difference to these outside agents who brings them the customers for tickets, so they effect sales and get their money; they pay the commission whether it be to a boarding-house keeper or runner, an employe of Castle Garden, a missionary, an agent of a national society, or anybody else. Here then is an open chance for speculation to all who have access to the Garden and the emigrants.

LURING THE EMIGRANTS AWAY.

Now for the operation of this plan. A ship arrives with, say, a thousand emigrants. They are landed at Castle Garden. Instantly they are beseiged by a swarm of boarding-house runners, agents of the Commission, representatives of national societies, missionaries and other privileged persons, all ostensibly working in their interests. Every one of these runners, agents, missionaries, or what not, has a pecuniary interest in getting the poor emigrant out of Castle Garden before he buys his ticket to his destination. He is plied with all manner of cautions against buying tickets inside; is given an endless amount of friendly advice; is assured of the great advantages he will derive by waiting until he gets out before determining what route he will proceed by; and is finally persuaded to report his intention to remain in the City awhile, and goes out with his zealous friends, who hasten him to the nearest ticket agency, there induce him to purchase his tickets, while they pocket their ten per cent. commission.

WHERE THE PROFIT COMES IN.

It is proper to remark that the price demanded for emigrant tickets outside, when honestly sold, is the same as in the Garden, and it is not charged that the agents selling them outside do swindle the emigrants. That is not the serious ground of objection to this system, though the opportunities it affords for fraud are apparent. But the practice is obnoxious; first, because it tends directly to the demoralization of all who are brought into contact with the emigrants. The agents of the various national societies created for the protection of emigrants of particular nationalities accept the commissions on the plea that they aid the funds of their respective organizations; and the missionaries make the same pretense, claiming that they put the commissions so received into the treasuries of the societies by which they are employed. The boarding-house runners urge upon the emigrants that they can save something by going outside to buy their tickets, and in some cases frequently divide the commission with the emigrant in return for his patronage of the houses they represent. But the actual employes of Castle Garden can plead none of these excuses, but pocket the entire amount of the commission, and are thus encouraged to lend the practice all the assistance possible. The agents of the several railroad companies inside the Garden wink at the practice, as it opens a field for competition which is not presented as long as the emigrant is under the control and protection of the establishment. And here is the second great objection to the plan. The agencies within the Garden were established expressly to shield the emigrants from the disorganized and irresponsible efforts of speculating agents beyond the supervision of the Commissioners, and the swarm of fraudulent ticket-sellers who are always ready to pounce upon the unwary, and to whom a company of emigrants offers the most promising opportunity. This practice subjects the emigrants to the very influences against which the Commission was formed to protect them, and enlists the agents and employes of the Commission in the active effort to entice the strangers from the wise safeguard the law has placed about them.

WHAT THE COMMISSIONERS ARE DOING.

In justice to the Commissioners, it should be stated that this whole system has developed itself within a year or two, and the extent of its operation has just attracted their attention. They profess to be seriously opposed to it, and have warned their employes that it will not be countenanced. They also threaten all privileged visitors to the Garden that their privileges will be revoked on the discovery of their participation in any efforts to lure immigrants out of the Garden on any pretense, or in accepting any commissions for tickets sold under this arrangement. But the Commissioners profess to have no confidence in the discontinuance of the practice however strict may be their rules. On the contrary, they accept the developments the discovery of the practice has given them as evidence that it is, after all, the railroad companies who are the real emigrant swindlers, and are now urging such a modification of the whole system as shall inure to the pecuniary benefit of the emigrant.

WHAT THE REAL SWINDLERS SAY.

The railroad companies defend the employment of outside agents and the payment of commissions for patronage as a necessity forced upon them by the rivalry of other trunk lines from the sea-board to the interior; and plead that but for such efforts on their part to secure patronage the business would be diverted to Baltimore, Boston and Quebec, not only to their injury, but to the great loss of the City as well. But the fallacy of this reason is easily shown. The arrivals of emigrants at Baltimore and Boston are a mere bagatelle to those at this port. Baltimore receives but 15,000 or 20,000 annually; Boston scarcely any greater number, and Quebec still less, while the arrivals at this port the present year will aggregate 230,000. These figures show the prevalent preference of emigrants for this port. Once here, it is by no means likely that they will travel overland to other cities to start thence on their inland journey. They are in haste to reach their destination and will naturally seek the shortest, quickest and most direct route. Moreover, they would gain nothing pecuniarily by preferring the routes leading from the other cities, since all the main lines leading from the Atlantic Coast to particular points in the West charge uniform rates, and the passenger going to St. Louis via Baltimore, would be obliged to pay fare from this City to Baltimore in excess of the usual fare from here to St. Louis direct. Thus it is seen that it is not a necessity that compels the transportation companies to resort to this expedient. The fact is, however, plain, that the carriage of emigrants is a very profitable business and each company is desirous of securing all of it that can be obtained, and hence the liberal commissions they offer and the great efforts they put forth.

HOW EMIGRANTS ARE ROBBED.

It is easily shown that under the most favorable circumstances the companies now pay about twenty-five per cent. of their receipts from this business in costs and expenses of its procurement. Thus, under the regular arrangement by which agents are stationed inside of Castle Garden, the companies undertake the transportation of the emigrants and their baggage from the landing-place to the railroad depots, and the insurance of their luggage. These expenses are estimated at five per cent. of the gross receipts from sales of tickets. Then, by a little hocus-pocus arrangement, the inside agents manage to reward those who secure them custom, the same as those outside, and thus a further sum of ten per cent. is disposed of. This payment of commission by the inside agents, though contrary to the rules of the establishment, is adroitly effected under cover of the observance of another rule the Commissioners have found it expedient to adopt for the protection of emigrants. Thus the inside agent does not issue tickets to the emigrants but merely orders for tickets which are exchanged outside for tickets when the holder is ready to proceed on his journey. This plan was adopted because of the liability of the emigrants to lose their tickets while remaining in the City, which was a total pecuniary loss to them of the amount invested, the companies not being disposed to issue duplicates. But when an order for tickets is lost it can easily be duplicated and thus the emigrant is shielded from loss. The inside agent, therefore, really issues no tickets, and therefore claims to know nothing about commissions. But when the self-constituted guardian of the emigrant presents himself at the outside office with his protégé and order for tickets, it is well understood that the commission of ten per cent. is to be paid. Thus then fifteen per cent. of the gross proceeds is actually paid away, without taking into account the salaries and commissions paid to the numerous outside and inside agents, which must certainly amount to another ten per cent., making twenty-five per cent. in all, or one-quarter of the entire sum exacted from the poor emigrant. In other words, the emigrant is robbed of one-quarter of the amount he pays for tickets.

WHAT THE SWINDLE AMOUNTS TO.

This amount aggregated last year $900,000 within the Garden, and doubtless not less than $100,000 outside, making $1,000,000 in all, of which the robbers' share was $250,000, as shown above. Any one can see that an honest and liberal management of this business, with a proper regard for the interests of the emigrants, would have resulted in the saving to them of this large sum of money, or that its expenditure would have inured in some way to their benefit, which is in no sense the case. Indeed, with this showing, the nonsense of the railroad companies' pretense of self-protection against the rivalries of other lines becomes conspicuously apparent. Should they abolish the whole system of runners and agents, and give the emigrant the benefit of such reduced expenses by reducing the price of tickets twenty-five per cent., as they could easily do, and still realize the same amount of money as at present, they would offer a competition against which no other lines could successfully contend.

THE REFORM THAT IS DEMANDED.

The plan the Commissioners now have in contemplation, and which they are urging upon the companies, looks to such a reform. They propose that the companies shall abandon all efforts to secure this business, leaving it entirely with the Commissioners, who will then undertake to divide it equally between the three great routes, charging a commission of but five per cent. for their labor. The companies could then reduce the price of tickets twenty per cent., which would represent the sum actually saved to the emigrants. Or, if they did not see fit to reduce the price of transportation, they could at least afford better accommodations than are now afforded to this class of travelers, and which are so notoriously inhuman. On this point the companies have been frequently appealed to in vain. Emigrants are crowded into dingy, ill-furnished and badly-ventilated cars; are dragged over the country at a snail's pace; are afforded no opportunity for rest or refreshment; and are uniformly treated with less consideration than are cattle bound to Eastern markets. The excuse for all this has heretofore been that at the rates received for emigrant transportation, better accommodations could not be afforded; but under the plan now proposed the companies would practically receive twenty per cent. additional fare, and could well afford to give some attention to the comfort and convenience of their passengers.

OTHER EVILS TO BE LOOKED TO.

There are other features of this business that are coming to light which may challenge consideration at another time. The employment by some of the companies of agents in Europe to solicit patronage is not merely a useless and costly expedient, but leads to a multitude of swindling operations, by which the hoards of the intended emigrants are transferred to the pockets of the most heartless robbers in existence. But this subject is too complex for consideration in this article. The Commissioners have turned their attention to existing evils right here at home, and an honest and Christian public will second their efforts at introducing the reforms needed. After those are effected the foreign agency business may well demand attention.

A Citizen of Rhode Island Fatally Wounds Himself—His Wife Injured.

From the Providence Journal, Dec. 22.

Mr. WILLIAM W. HILL, aged forty-one years, agent and part owner of the Bay Mills, East Greenwich, twice shot himself between 7 and 8 o'clock yesterday morning, at his residence, with a small revolver, while lying in bed. The first shot was aimed at his head. The second was fired into his left side, between the ribs, with the pistol held close against his body. Mr. HILL was alone in his chamber at the time, and his wife, who was up and in an adjoining room, heard the report and entered the room just as Mr. HILL fired the second shot. She attempted to wrest the pistol away from her husband, and while struggling for the possession of the weapon, it was discharged again and wounded Mrs. HILL in the left hip, but not dangerously, the ball being easily found and extracted, making only a flesh wound. The act is attributed to great mental depression and physical exhaustion. There is no evidence showing premeditation. Dr. ELDREDGE, of East Greenwich, and Dr. CASWELL, of Providence, were summoned, and held a consultation at Mr. HILL's residence at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. They found and extracted the ball in the head, which penetrated the scalp and fractured the skull, but did not pass through into the brain. The ball fired at the side passed between the ribs and lodged in his left lung. He was living at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, but his pulse was gradually growing weaker. The physicians considered his condition very critical, and it was feared that he was sinking from internal hemorrhage. His recovery is considered doubtful, but not hopeless. His father, THOMAS J. HILL, Esq., of this city, was summoned by telegraph yesterday morning, and went to East Greenwich as soon as possible, and remained in constant attendance upon his son through the day. His brother, ALBERT, residing in his family, and his partner in business, was also with him all day. All the family are plunged into the greatest grief by this sudden and unexpected affliction.

Mr. HILL was still in bed when he made the attempt to take his life, apparently not having arisen since he retired the night before, and when Mrs. HILL entered the room he was sitting up in the bed with the pistol pressed against his left side, looking distracted and bewildered, and before she could reach him he fired the second shot. She immediately grasped the pistol and wounded herself by the shot that was fired in her efforts to take it from him. He then lay down on the bed and was quiet afterward, and retained his consciousness, and answered all the questions his physicians asked coherently and sensibly. He has been in a state of great mental depression and despondency for several days past. Thursday night of last week urgent business called him to New-York, and he did not sleep any that night nor on his return Friday night. Saturday morning, at 4 o'clock, he arrived here and drove to Olneyville in his father's carriage, and returned, and without taking any breakfast went to East Greenwich on the 8 o'clock train. He was quite ill before he reached East Greenwich, and has been weak and desponding ever since. He assigned no other, and no other cause is known to exist.

A Young Lady Murdered by a Discarded Lover.

There has been much excitement recently in Hempstead County, Ark., caused by the murder of Miss HOLT, a young lady. The name of the murderer and his motive for the crime are thus given in the Little Rock *Republican* of Dec. 21:

"We learn from a relative of Mr. ROBERT NORWOOD, that he has confessed himself guilty of murdering Miss MOLLIE HOLT, because he was crazed with love and jealousy. It appears they have been engaged for the past two years, and owing to the opposition of her parents, she had concluded to finally discard him. Young NORWOOD met her on the morning of the 13th, and had a long conversation with her. She then told him firmly that she was determined to discard him and marry another party; and casually remarked that she should visit one of the neighbors that evening. He treasured up this acknowledgment, and on her way to the neighbors he waylaid her. He was arrested shortly afterward on suspicion, and has since fully confessed the crime and acknowledged himself guilty of the murder. He is now lodged in Hempstead Jail, awaiting the action of the proper authorities. Both of the families, the HOLTS and NORWOODS, are among the first families in the State, and there has never appeared anything against either of their records. It is a circumstance much to be regretted by all parties, and the sympathies of the entire community are with the bereaved families."

THE PROHIBITION PARTY.

Call for a National Convention to Nominate Candidates for President and Vice-President.

The following call for a National Temperance Convention has been issued:

The friends of the National Prohibition Party are hereby requested to assemble in National Convention, at the City of Columbus, Ohio, on the 22d day of February, 1872, at 11 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of putting in nomination candidates for the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States, to be supported at the next national election, and of transacting such other business as the Convention, when assembled, shall deem advisable. In view of the yet imperfectly organized condition of the party, it is thought better that the meeting should take the form of a mass convention rather than a delegated one. It is earnestly desired that each and every State and Territory in the Union may be represented as largely as possible in the Convention. The complete formation of this party is expected to constitute an important era in the history of American morals and politics, and all good citizens may well feel ambitious to participate in so worthy an enterprise.

The allowed public traffic in intoxicating drinks is, unquestionably, the chief abettor of ignorance, poverty, irreligion, immorality, and crime in our country; and tends more directly than any other cause to diminish productive industry, corrupt the elective franchise, and to endanger the security of the Government. But, unfortunately, while many confess the truth of this general charge, they profess to differ widely regarding the proper method of treating the evil. And without enumerating theories, it is sufficient here to briefly state our own, viz: That it is the duty of the Government, functionally, both by municipal and general legislation, to effectively prohibit the manufacture, importation and sale of all intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage. This theory is so sharply in conflict with all others that it forms a clearly defined political issue, and one which, from the nature of the case, will be hotly contested by the friends of the liquor traffic. Prompt and efficient organization on the part of all prohibitionists is therefore necessary. Moreover, prohibition of the liquor traffic is strictly a legal and political question, completely revolutionary of a long-established custom, and all experience proves that such measures can succeed only through the triumph of political organizations which espouse them. Believing, therefore, that the issues which have given significance to party politics in our country for the past few years are now so far disposed of as to justify new political combinations for worthy purposes, we cordially invite all our fellow-citizens, who agree with us in our views, to meet us in national convention, at the time and place above mentioned.

JOHN RUSSELL, Chairman.
GIDEON T. STEWART, Secretary.
JACKSON, Mich., Dec. 9, A. D. 1871.

Liberal Public Bequests by a Massachusetts Manufacturer.

From the Boston Journal, Dec. 23.

The will of the late Dr. OLIVER DEAN, the founder of the Dean Academy in Franklin, has been admitted to probate in Norfolk County. Besides the $300,000 which it is said that Dr. DEAN during his life bestowed upon the academy which bears his name, he left a fortune estimated at $600,000, the result of the wonderful business tact that he exhibited in the manufacturing corporations with which he was once connected. The will was executed on the 6th of September last, and in it he bequeaths $30,000 to Tufts College, to be called the "Dean Fund," the income to be expended as the managers may deem best for the interests of the institution; to the City Library of Manchester, N. H., $5,000, the income to be invested in the purchase of books; to his nephews and children of SYLVESTER DEAN, viz: OLIVER, of San Francisco, Cal.; WILLIAM B., of St. Louis, Mo., and ALBERT, of Milford, Mass., $20,000 each; and to his four nieces, CHARLOTTE, wife of Hon. JOHN C. PARK, of South Dedham; Mrs. SETH PERRY, of Boston; Mrs. WM. PETIT, now in Europe; Mrs. JOHN BLISS, and to the children of Mrs. WARREN CARPENTER, of St. Paul, Minn., $20,000 each; to Mrs. JOHN R. BREWER, of Boston, $8,000; Mrs. CHAS. FRANCIS, Boston, $5,000; MARIA S. EDWARDS, Elizabeth, N. J., $2,000; Mrs. TIMOTHY G. SENTER, Franklin, $5,000.

To the First Universalist Church, in Franklin, he bequeaths the "Emmons Farm," with all the buildings thereon, together with nearly all the stock, and also his residence, which is to be used as a parsonage by the society. The Dean Library Association in Medway Village is remembered with a gift of twenty-five shares in the Boston and Albany Railroad. To the cherished object of his life, the Dean Academy, he gives forty shares of the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company, forty shares in the Manchester Print Works, ten shares in the Stark Mills, and 200 shares in the Vermont and Canada Railroad, the income of which is to be appropriated for the payment of the salaries of the teachers of that Academy.

All the residue and remainder of his real, personal or mixed property is left to the same institution, to be used by the trustees as they may deem most expedient for its benefit as long as it shall remain an academy; otherwise it is to pass into the hands of Tufts College. To Mrs. EMMA D. SENTER, the teacher of French at the Academy, Mr. DEAN leaves five shares in the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company; to Miss SARAH G. DULEY, the second preceptress, $10,000, and to Miss ELIZA B. BARRY, the third teacher in German, $5,000. Numerous bequests are made to relatives and personal friends, and CHARLES AMORY and SAMUEL R. PAYSON are appointed executors, with the wish that they may not be required to give bonds.

A Bloodless Duel in Ohio.

The Dayton (Ohio) *Journal* gives the following account of a bloodless duel, which it asserts took place in the vicinity of that city on Thursday afternoon:

"One of the parties was a well-known Democratic politician, formerly Chairman of the City Democratic Executive Committee. It must be said, in deference to the fact, that the challenged party was a 'colored pusson.' Of course chivalry was in the ascendant. The American fellow-citizen of African descent was determined to maintain the honor of his nationality, while the ex-member of the Democratic Central Committee had a sure thing of it, in making it a condition of the duel that there should be no lead in the pistols. The darky was not posted on this point. He believed that it was the regular thing according to the latest style of the duello. The parties met, as arranged by the seconds, on the banks of Mad River. The Ethiopian was furnished with an antiquated pepper-box revolver, while the Democratic Caucasian was similarly armed. The word was given to take positions; the Democrat and the African obeyed the summons, but the darky stood upon his courage and the honor of his race, while the Democrat took his position with the agreed certainty that blank cartridges only were to be used. The men being placed, the usual words were given, and the parties fired. As might have been expected no one was hurt. The contest went on until three shots had been exchanged. On the fourth fire, as had been arranged, the forehead of the Democratic committeeman was discolored by a stain, as of blood, and he fell heavily to the ground. The darky was evidently discouraged. He was the challenged party, and, as an African, could not refuse to vindicate the courage of his race. So, when he saw his antagonist fall, he was disposed to fly, and he did fly—right into the arms of the authorities! He got into town with all possible speed, confessed his crime, and was committed to jail at his own request. He was at last released on sham bail; and the belligerents, who had so lately faced each other at the pistol's mouth, fortunately met. The darky was overjoyed to find that he had not put a hole in the skull of his antagonist, as appearances had indicated, and the two combatants settled their difficulty with a drink, after failing to accomplish such a result with pepper-boxes."

A Maine Farmer Who Wasn't To Be Fooled.

From the Bangor Whig, Dec. 22.

The agent in this city of one of the insurance companies forced into liquidation by the Chicago fire issued circulars to persons having property insured in the company at his agency, requesting them to return their policies to be cancelled and used as claims in the settling up of affairs. In response to the call, a farmer from a neighboring county entered the agent's office the other day in search of information. The agent explained at some length, but the old fellow couldn't understand, and a second and a third explanation were equally futile in aiding his dull comprehension. The man of policies was going back to commence again, when the farmer arose, buttoned up his coat, and said: "Look a-here, Mister, I don't know nothin' about your thundrin' likerdashun, an' I don't want ter. I don't believe ther's been a fire, and what's more, I believe the whole thing's a sell. I paid nigh onter twenty dollars for this here policy, an' I'm a goin' ter keep it! Yer can't fool me!" And after delivering himself thus, he stalked away indignant.

The Election of Representatives in Florida.

From the Savannah Republican, Dec. 22.

Elections were held Monday last, to fill vacancies in the Florida House, in the Counties of Jackson, Calhoun, Walton, Sumter, Marion and Columbia. Nothing official has been received, but it is believed that the Conservatives have carried all of them, and secured a Conservative majority in the House, and, *perhaps*, on joint ballot. As a United States Senator in place of OSBORNE is to be elected, the result is a matter of no little importance.

A New Temperance Advocate in Chicago.

From the Detroit Tribune, Dec. 23.

Before Chicago was reduced to ashes, its innumerable groceries were very commonly surmounted by the blue and white information that "Lill's Premium Ales" could be had on the premises. This legend, uniform in its style and structure, met the Chicagoan everywhere, and it was evident that if only those who professed to sell the ale drank it, Mr. LILL must be doing a thriving business. It is, therefore, with some surprise that we learn that Mr. LILL, at a Chicago rebuilding meeting, the other night, stated that his burned brewery would never be reconstructed, as he was sick of the business, and would not continue his traffic even if the brewery should be rebuilt by others and given to him. It had been a profitable business, he added, but all his employes were more or less drunkards, and he preferred to go into some other calling, even if he made less than half the money which his brewery paid him.

MAYOR HALL'S EXCUSES.

What They Amount to—A Careful Review of Them as a Whole—A Nice Lot of Contradictions.

It is one of the personal misfortunes of Mayor HALL that he cannot restrain either his tongue or pen, and thus whenever an opportunity offers he is certain to make statements that his well-known versatility compels him afterward to contradict. The last excuse made by him for not exposing the fraudulent depletion of the public treasury was that he was ignorant of the extent to which the money had been appropriated, as his name had been forged on the warrants. On previous occasions, however, he does not seem to have been in doubt either as to the extent of the debt or his own responsibility. The following extracts will explain themselves:

Copies of every claim ever paid have been for some time in process of printing for public information, and were annexed as appendices to the main report of the Finance Department which recently accompanied the Mayor's last message. They have always been duly filed according to law, and within the period provided by statute, in the office of either the Clerk of the Common Council or of the Board of Supervisors, and they have always been at the service of any citizen who desired to see them.—*Mayor Hall's Letter, July 22, 1871.*

There have been other claims audited, * * and as a member of the Board which audited them, I take my full share of the responsibility under the statute referring them to the Board, and substantially directing their audit and payment.—*Mayor's Letter.*

It is enough for the friends of these gentlemen, (the Mayor and Controller,) to know that they cannot pay any claims unless these have been first audited by either the Board of Supervisors or the former Board of Audit, and that they never have paid any claims without such statutory audit.—*Leader, July 22, 1871.*

When in the last Spring I asked a report of the Controller he gave one; and, substantially, it came down to date of request. It was not his fault that one didn't sooner appear; it was mine for not asking.—*Mayor Hall Interviewed by a Herald Reporter, Aug. 6, 1871.*

These statements relate not to anything done in a corner, but to transactions long ago laid in full, in black and white, before the New-York public. * * The City authorities owe a duty of deference even to an unjust and foolishly-excited public sentiment, and this duty they will pay. They will lay the truth before the community upon all these matters.—*Leader, Aug. 5.*

Defendant has always countersigned or attested to the validity of any warrant without inquiry into the nature or propriety of the claim comprehended in the warrant, beyond that afforded by the approvals already given, not only by the Controller, as the head of the Finance Department, but of the Auditor, whose further duty it is by law and ordinance to investigate and settle the same, with the single exception of there appearing on the face of the warrant, or of the bill, or the voucher, a discrepancy, an inconsistency, or a suggestion of error.—*Affidavit of the Mayor, Sept. 12, 1871.*

He specifically denies that the claims referred to in subdivision 9 were, to a great extent, or any extent, fraudulent upon their face.—*Mayor's Affidavit.*

He denies that expenditures are being made and liabilities incurred on behalf of the City, with the knowledge and approbation of this defendant, which are large, or to any extent in excess of the statutory appropriations.—*Mayor's Affidavit.*

THE GRAIN MOVEMENT.

Statistics of the Year's Imports and Exports from Buffalo—The Largest Amount on Record.

From the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, Dec. 23.

The movement of flour and grain from the West through Buffalo, in 1871, has been immense. The receipts of grain have been larger than during any previous year on record, while the receipts of flour and grain, estimating flour as wheat, exceed those for any previous year with the single exception of 1862, when all the Southern avenues of trade were closed in consequence of the war. The aggregate imports of flour and all kinds of grain, by lake, at Buffalo, for each year since 1851, may be seen in the following statement:

Year.	Flour.	Grain. Bushels.	Grain, including flour. Bushels.
1851	[illegible]	13,449,661	17,740,781
1852	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1853	[illegible]	11,078,741	15,956,526
1854	[illegible]	13,553,415	22,292,285
1855	[illegible]	10,788,473	24,472,278
1856	[illegible]	10,122,657	20,798,907
1857	[illegible]	15,248,930	19,578,695
1858	[illegible]	20,232,444	26,812,980
1859	[illegible]	14,429,000	21,530,722
1860	[illegible]	21,441,440	27,058,115
1861	[illegible]	50,662,646	51,460,001
1862	[illegible]	58,642,344	72,872,484
1863	[illegible]	49,845,065	64,732,150
1864	[illegible]	41,081,486	51,177,146
1865	[illegible]	42,472,232	51,416,188
1866	[illegible]	51,830,342	58,388,097
1867	[illegible]	43,079,079	50,168,074
1868	[illegible]	42,572,123	50,197,215
1869	[illegible]	37,496,131	46,459,260
1870	[illegible]	42,859,601	57,477,604
1871	[illegible]	61,314,813	67,439,180

By adding to the above aggregate, for 1871, the amount received by the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway, from Jan. 1 to and including Dec. 16, it will be seen that a very large percentage of the total Western movement of flour and grain has passed through Buffalo this year. The receipts of all kinds of grain, including flour as wheat, by the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway since Jan. 1 were 24,801,541 bushels. The total imports of cereals at Buffalo, including flour as wheat, have been 109,380,690 bushels. The total receipts of grain, including flour as wheat, at Chicago, Milwaukee, Toledo, Detroit, Cleveland and Duluth, from Jan. 1 to Dec. 16, were 135,461,168 bushels. The movement through Buffalo, therefore, was more than seventy-five per cent. of the entire receipts at the six principal lake ports named.

The eastward movement of grain from this city by canal has also been unusually large. In but one year before in the history of our canals has so large an amount of grain been moved forward by water as has been this year. In the following exhibit of the exports of grain by canal for the past twenty-one years, we have omitted flour, as that trade has almost entirely left the canal for the railways:

Year.	Grain, bush.	Year.	Grain, bush.
1851	[illegible]	1862	53,258,972
1852	[illegible]	1863	45,693,123
1853	[illegible]	1864	37,686,851
1854	[illegible]	1865	37,563,035
1855	[illegible]	1866	44,517,609
1856	[illegible]	1867	36,394,537
1857	[illegible]	1868	38,734,787
1858	[illegible]	1869	28,298,707
1859	[illegible]	1870	29,421,981
1860	[illegible]	1871	48,359,491
1861	[illegible]		

In addition to what has gone eastward by canal this year there has been shipped 25,271,549 bushels by railway. This makes the total shipments from Buffalo for the year 73,561,040 bushels, which is equal to [illegible] per cent. of all the shipments of grain from Chicago, Milwaukee, Toledo and Duluth, from January 1 to December 16. Of the amount transported hence by rail, 8,374,589 bushels were lake receipts, and the remainder, 16,[illegible] bushels came by rail.

Business at the Chicago Post-Office.

From the Chicago Post, Dec. 22.

There is today, at the Post-office, the largest mail that has ever arrived in this city for distribution and exchange. The rooms are so crowded with the pouches, that at least forty tons of mail-bags are piled up outside, higher and broader than the O'Leary barn. This excessive accumulation is owing partially to the sudden opening of obstructed roads, but largely to the fact that all the mails, in every direction, have strikingly increased in bulk since the fire. The inflammation of Oct. 9 has been generally much allayed, but the Postoffice still continues to show febrile symptoms. The new two-story brick building, 40 by 40 feet, being erected in the rear for the delivery and reception of mails, is not yet completed, and it is believed that this large addition will make the building adequate for the needs of the service, and shelter all the mails. This building will be ready in about ten days, and will be the headquarters of the Assistant Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service and of the local mail agent.

Interest on the Old Debt of Georgia.

From the Augusta Chronicle & Sentinel.

The announcement that acting Governor CONLEY had vetoed a section in the Appropriation bill just passed by the General Assembly, providing for the interest on the public debt, has created an impression that the holders of old State bonds would be debarred their semi-annual interest, which is about to fall due. This impression is erroneous. Section No. 869 of the Code reads as follows:

"An amount of money equal to the sum annually appropriated sufficient to pay the principal and interest of any bonded debt of the State becoming due during the year."

Fortified by this section of the Code, the Treasurer of the State is authorized to pay the interest falling due upon bonds, the legality of which there is no dispute, that is, the interest upon the public debt created prior to 1868, and this, Dr. ANGIER informs us, he is preparing to do. These bondholders, therefore, may expect their semi-annual interest as usual.

COLOMBIA.

News from Bogota—The Interoceanic Canal Question—Proposed Construction of a Railroad—Advantages of the Plan.

From an Occasional Correspondent.

BOGOTA, Saturday, Oct. 14, 1871.

It is understood in well-informed circles here that the Interoceanic Canal question has lately assumed another phase. The Government of Colombia is very anxious to secure the building of a railroad from Bogota to the lower Magdalena, or to the starting point of permanent navigation on that river, passing through the States of Cundinamarca, Boyaca and Santander. The distance is estimated at two hundred miles, and the line passes through the best part of the country. Such a road, when constructed, would undoubtedly pay sooner or later—this depending, of course, upon the development of the country, which may reasonably be expected to be very rapid, as the population of the States named is singularly industrious and active, and the land wonderfully productive. The last Congress offered very liberal terms for the construction of such a road in land grants, &c., and in a guarantee of seven per cent. interest on the sums invested. But the revenues of Colombia are small, and already heavily burdened, and the capital of the world doubts the security of the guarantee.

It is reported—and no doubt truly, as it comes from official circles—that Gen. HURLBUT, the American Minister, has proposed to the Columbian Government to guarantee the construction of the railroad named to an amount not to exceed ten million dollars—that is to say, that the constructing Company shall be guaranteed by the United States an interest at six per cent. on all sums expended by them up to ten million dollars for fifteen years. In return the United States are to receive a grant of the Interoceanic Canal, free from all charges and rents, with all the privileges as to land grants and right of way, and all the rights of military control which were granted by the original treaty of Jan. 26, 1870. It is believed that this proposition, if adopted by the United States, as proposed by the Minister, will be agreed to by the Congress at the next session. I consider, so far as I can judge, that this scheme is eminently profitable for Colombia, as it secures the construction of a railroad of vital importance; nor would it be very burdensome on the United States. It is probable—nay, certain—that in three years from the opening the road would pay dividends, and the guarantee become null.

It is true that if the Colombians understood their true interest, they would give the canal route without any remuneration; but as the Government is miserably straightened for means, they continue to look upon it as something to be sold, and their prices hitherto have been exorbitant. It is to be hoped the plan will be carried out, and that the people of the United States are not so utterly wearied of the whole subject as to have lost interest in the canal. It is a work for Americans alone to do.

Yesterday's Affrays.

Early yesterday morning JOHN ELLIS, who lives at No. 68 Varick-street, when intoxicated, entered the Catholic Church in Thompson-street, near Canal, and began to act in a manner so disorderly as to disturb the congregation. FRANCIS P. KNAPP, of No. 332 Greenwich-street, taking hold of him to put him out, ELLIS stabbed him in the right shoulder and arm, inflicting severe wounds. A general rush was then made for the drunken man, and in the mêlée ELLIS received a slight cut in the hand. He was finally secured and taken to the Eighth Precinct Station-house and locked up.

An affray occurred about 9 o'clock in the saloon of FRANCIS BURKE, No. 100 Mott-street, during which BURKE struck PATRICK McGOWAN, of No. 76 Mulberry-street, on the head with a pitcher, inflicting a severe scalp wound. BURKE was arrested and committed.

At 1 o'clock in the morning a fracas occurred at No. 68 Mulberry-street, in the store of JOHN KELLY, who was beaten by JAMES CLINCHY and received some severe contused wounds on the head and face. CLINCHY was seized by the Police and held for trial.

Patrolman GRACE, of the Sixth Precinct, finding several men at 2 o'clock in the morning on the corner of Mott and Chatham streets acting in a disorderly manner ordered them away, when one of them, named PETER DRAKE struck the officer on the head with a stone, causing a severe wound. DRAKE was arrested and committed for trial.

About 5 o'clock in the morning REESE DAVIES, of the ship *Patriot*, now at Pier No. 7 East River, went into the coffee-saloon No. 362 Fulton-street, and a dispute arising about the settlement of the bill he incurred, he was assaulted by JOHN RICH, one of the waiters, and severely beaten about the head and face. He was arrested, and subsequently committed.

JOHN KAFFIN, an Italian, was stabbed in the face by MICHAEL HANLEY, of No. 21 Park-street, who was committed by Justice DOWLING to answer for the offense.

MARY EMMONS, a white woman, finding her husband in company with JULIA THOMPSON, a colored woman, of No. 23 Crosby-street, in a house in Thomas-street, called CHARLES H. SIMMONS, a negro, to her aid, and they jointly made an attack upon the pair, who were severely beaten about the head with a poker, and JULIA, in addition, got a severe bite over the eye from SIMMONS, and on the ear from Mrs. EMMONS. The Police arriving, the assailants were arrested and committed.

MARTIN NEANY, of No. 114 Mulberry-street, was assaulted at Mulberry and Chatham streets, at an early hour of the morning, by WILLIAM JOHNSON, and robbed of his watch. JOHNSON was arrested and committed for bail.

BERNARD DUGGAN was committed by Justice DOWLING for a brutal attack upon ANN CONCORAN, his sister-in-law, at his residence, No. 4 Broad-street.

Christmas in New-England.

The Boston *Transcript* of Saturday evening says: "The people of New-England made but little account of Christmas until within a few years. And even now in the rural towns, except where there is a large foreign population, the inhabitants pursue their regular avocations on the day. Less than a generation ago the banks, insurance offices and stores were open as usual at Christmas, and the only allusion to the anniversary in the newspapers was a local item of a few lines, stating that the Catholic and Episcopal churches would be open in the morning, and the Handel and Haydn Society would sing the 'Messiah' in the evening. Twenty-five years ago the retail trade of the jewelers, fancy-goods dealers and book-sellers of Boston at Christmas was not one-third so large as their business at New-Year's time. Now the proportions are reversed, and Christmas presents carry off the palm. In 1869 the *Transcript* surprised the whole community by not issuing a paper on Christmas Day—a custom it has since observed, although it was many years before any of its contemporaries followed its example."

Non-Liability of the State for Damages for Canal Bridge Embankments.

From the Albany Argus, Dec. 25.

Last Spring the Canal Appraisers decided that the State was not liable for damages claimed by ROSWELL BURROWS, of Albion, by reason of a high bridge approach having been constructed in front of his block of stores. The claim was for upward of $30,000, and there are claims of similar character pending amounting to several hundred thousand dollars. An opinion written in the case by Hon. GEO. C. GREEN, Canal Appraiser, holding the State not liable, was the cause of considerable comment by the Press throughout the State, and was regarded as a "new departure" in the matter of canal claims. The case was appealed by the claimant to the Canal Board, and on the 22d inst. that Board affirmed the award of the Appraisers, upon the grounds stated in the opinion of Appraiser GREEN.

The Men Imprisoned for Debt in Ludlow-street Jail.

Of the forty prisoners confined in Ludlow-street Jail for debt who were brought before Judge BARNARD in November last, all have been discharged except eight. The discharge of the thirty-two prisoners has not been by virtue of the Judge's order, but for other reasons, as payment of claims against them, compromises with creditors, efforts of counsel, &c. It will be remembered that Sheriff BRENNAN was afraid that the action of Judge BARNARD would not be sustained in other Courts, and that he would be held personally responsible by the creditors of the prisoners discharged by the Judge's order.

Shooting Affray in Brooklyn.

About 8 o'clock yesterday morning ROBT. HENRY, residing at No. 231 John-street, went to the Station-house of the Second Precinct, accompanied by WM. ALLEN, who stated that HENRY had been shot by CHAS. JOHNSON, in the bar-room of WM. J. DONALDSON, corner of Plymouth-street and Hudson-avenue. It was stated that JOHN LARKINS and JOHN WHITEHEAD became engaged in a fight, when JOHNSON, who was a friend of WHITEHEAD, threatened to shoot any person who interfered. Some of the crowd took part in the quarrel, when it is alleged that JOHNSON fired into the assemblage, one of the balls striking HENRY in the back. He was conveyed to the City Hospital, where the wound was probed, but the ball could not be found. It is supposed to have lodged in the muscles of the back. JOHN LARKINS was held as a witness to the affray. JOHNSON escaped. He is an employe of the Water Board, and was involved in a similar difficulty about a year ago.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL.

☞ THE GREAT WANT OF CAPITALISTS AND INVESTORS.

A LONG LOAN, WITH A LIBERAL RATE OF INTEREST, AND PERFECT SAFETY.

The large income which Government bonds yielded in the past, in consequence of the high premium on gold, and the handsome dividends paid by railroad companies, both in cash and scrip, have educated the American people to high rates of interest for their money. The recent advance in the national credit, and the sharp decline in the gold premium have materially reduced the annual income from investments in Government bonds, which, if bought at the current quotations, pay only a nominal interest as compared with previous years.

The bonds of old roads are generally selling so high that it is difficult for investors to realize seven per cent. for their money. In this state of the market a favorable opportunity is offered to capitalists and investors in the ST. JOSEPH AND DENVER CITY RAILROAD COMPANY'S FIRST MORTGAGE SINKING FUND LAND GRANT BONDS. This loan has thirty years to run, and bears eight per cent. interest, with both interest and principal payable in gold. The principal is payable in New-York, and the interest either at New-York, London or Frankfort-on-the-Main, and in the coin of the respective countries. A large portion of this road is completed and in successful operation, while the balance of the line is being pushed with all vigor consistent with a well-constructed road. It runs through a country of unsurpassed fertility and populated with an enterprising and thrifty people, from St. Joseph, on the Missouri River, to Fort Kearney, an important station on the Union Pacific Road. This will greatly shorten the distance between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. This is a guarantee of a large traffic, but, as an additional security for the bond-holders, the Company has a land grant of 1,500,000 acres of the richest agricultural lands in the West, which cannot be sold for less than $4 per acre, and the proceeds thereof are turned over to the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company as trustees for the retirement of the bonds with this money. It must be apparent, therefore, to capitalist, and investor that the 8 PER CENT. GOLD FIRST MORTGAGE SINKING FUND LAND GRANT BONDS OF THE ST. JOSEPH AND DENVER CITY RAILROAD COMPANY fill the great want now felt—*a long loan and a liberal rate of interest with perfect safety.* The bonds are offered at present at 97½ and accrued interest in *currency.*

The St. Joseph and Denver City Railroad Company's Eastern Division bonds were placed by our firm at 97½, and are now quoted at 101½ to 102½ and accrued interest. When the present loan is entirely placed, these bonds must occupy a very high standard and advance in price.

TANNER & CO., Bankers,
No. 11 Wall-street.

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY MILLIONS
Five-Twenties of '62
CALLED IN.

One Hundred Millions of these Bonds have already been redeemed and canceled by the Treasury, and the interest on $40,000,000 additional will CEASE IN MARCH NEXT. The policy indicated by the Secretary renders it probable that in the course of the ensuing year nearly the whole of this class of 5-20s may be called in.

This policy of the Government we have foreshadowed to our friends and the public, and it behooves all holders of 5-20 Bonds of '62 to decide whether it is not best *at once* to change their securities into NORTHERN PACIFIC 7-30s, by which change they will realize as profit, or add to their capital, the present average premium of 14 per cent. on Five-Twenties, while at the same time largely increasing their annual income.

The holder of a $1,000 Five-twenty bond who exchanges it now for Northern Pacifics, thereby increases his principal fourteen per cent., receiving say, $1,140 in Northern Pacifics for $1,000 in Five-twenties. He also permanently increases his yearly interest income on his investment more than thirty-eight per cent., or from $60 in gold to $83 in gold.

Northern Pacifics have thirty years to run, are exempt from United States taxation, are issued in denominations from $100 to $10,000, and are secured not only by the Road and its earnings, but by 50,000,000 acres of land, worth, at Government valuation, $125,000,000.

No bond could be more secure.

JAY COOKE & CO.,
New-York, Philadelphia and Washington.

☞ EIGHT PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE GOLD BONDS OF THE MOBILE AND MONTGOMERY RAILROAD COMPANY, INDORSED BY ALABAMA, $16,000 A MILE ON A COMPLETED ROAD. PARTICULARS ON APPLICATION. FOR SALE AT NINETY-FIVE AND ACCRUED INTEREST BY

SOUTTER & CO.,
NO. 53 WILLIAM-ST.

☞ CAUTION!

The public are cautioned against negotiating a check purporting to be drawn by E. B. Thompson upon, and certified by, the West Side Bank, dated Dec. 18, 1871, payable to John Greenwood, or bearer, for $1,962 37, the same being a forgery.

☞ THE WEST WISCONSIN RAILWAY IS completed to Hudson, and will have trains running to St. Paul by the commencement of the coming year. This route will be the trunk line for the Eastern and Western business of Northern Wisconsin and Minnesota, as well as for the through business to the East, the line being 100 miles shorter than by the present route. The local and lumber business of the road is very considerable and steadily increasing, yielding sufficient return to pay interest. The Land Grant and property of every description belonging to the Company is worth more than double the amount of the mortgage, and is held as security for the bonds, which are payable, interest and principal, in gold, bearing seven per cent. per annum. Bonds are for sale at 90 and accrued interest in currency, by WHITE, MORRIS & CO., No. 18 Wall-st., and GWYNNE, JOHNSON & DAY, No. 18 Wall-st., agents for the Company.

☞ EDWARD HAIGHT & CO.
BANKERS,
No. 9 Wall-st., New-York.
FIVE PER CENT. Interest allowed on daily balances and certificates of deposit.

☞ TO BROKERS.
WANTED—A position as book-keeper and cashier in a stock or gold house, by a party thoroughly posted in the business; first-class references given. Address A. B., Box No. 5,351 Post-office.

☞ BURLINGTON, CEDAR RAPIDS AND Minnesota Seven per Cent. Gold Sinking Fund Bonds for sale at 90 and interest by HENRY CLEWS & CO., No. 32 Wall-st., New-York.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 25, 1871.

Trade yesterday forenoon at Weehawken Yards was brisk; 28 cars of horned Cattle arrived, and sold from 8c.@11c. ₱ lb., weight from 6 cwt. to 7 cwt., on 54 lbs. to 57 lbs. to the cwt. net, quality medium. On this forenoon, at One Hundredth-street Yards, trade in horned Cattle was good, and the market closed firm, quality from common to fair, prices from 9½c.@12c. ₱ lb., weight from 5½ cwt. to 12 cwt., on 55 lbs. to 60 lbs. to the cwt. net. Milch Cows were dull, from $50@$75 ₱ head. Dry Cows, to calve next Spring, from $35@$50 ₱ head. Sheep not quoted. 22 choice Ohio Lambs sold at 8c. ₱ lb., weight 1,715 lbs. Veals not quoted. A hurried trade in the early forenoon was effected in Live Hogs from 4½c.@5c. ₱ lb., extreme range.

SALES TODAY.

T. SWIFT sold for self 28 State Steers, uneven lot, from 10c.@12c. ₱ lb., weight from 6½ cwt. to 12 cwt. HEALY & SEALY sold for selves 23 Steers, Illinois, fair cattle at 11c. ₱ lb., weight 7 cwt. BURCHARD & MERRITT sold for selves 124 Steers, Illinois, from common to good, from 10¼c.@12½c. ₱ lb., weight 7½ cwt. W. THOMPSON sold for self 70 Steers, Illinois, good cattle, from 11c.@12c. ₱ lb., weight 8½ cwt. MEEK & GOVY sold 125 Steers, Iowas, rough Cattle, from 9¼c.@11c. ₱ lb., weight 7 cwt. T. WHEELER sold for self 80 Steers, Illinois and Ohios mixed, from fair to good, from 11½c.@12c. ₱ lb., weight 7 cwt. to 11½ cwt. S. & D. WAIXEL sold for selves 218 Steers, Illinois, in small lots, from 10½c.@13½c. ₱ lb., weight from 5½ cwt. to 10½ cwt.

TOTAL RECEIPTS OF LIVE STOCK AND COMPARATIVE STATEMENT FOR THE WEEK ENDING TUESDAY, DEC. 26, 1871:

	Beeves.	Cows.	Veals.	Sheep & Lambs.	Swine.
This week	5,425	105	670	18,883	40,153
Previous week	7,399	117	616	18,893	41,088
Two weeks ago	7,587	143	802	24,220	41,626
Weekly average 1868	5,645	94	1,104	19,800	22,816
Weekly average 1869	5,162	90	1,739	28,228	18,345
Weekly average 1870	5,896	96	2,130	30,720	[illegible]
Weekly average of all kinds in 1868					54,222
Weekly average of all kinds in 1869					53,721
Weekly average of all kinds in 1870					62,668
Total of all kinds in 1868					2,776,490
Total of all kinds in 1869					2,801,202
Total of all kinds in 1870					3,200,253

	Beeves.	Cows.	Veals.	Sheep & Lambs.	Swine.
One-Hundredth-street	1,168	16	256	245	....
West Forty-eighth-st.	6	65	178	4,278	....
West Fortieth-street	....	....	....	4,600	20,979
Communipaw Yards	2,865	....	....	9,255	22,589
Weehawken Yards	1,386	....	....	....	....
Chamberlin's Yards	....	22	166	495	....

In closing the weekly report of the Live Stock markets of New-York City and its immediate neighborhood, we propose to lay before our readers a brief summary of the condition of the trade as it has been for the year 1871. In January of said year horned Cattle ranged from common native Steers to good grade Cattle, both grade Durhams and grade Devons as Beef Cattle, with nearly clean bred Durhams as extra prime Cattle. The medium quality Steers owed their range of quality to feed rather than to blood, and were generally coarse, the Cattle, save a few herds of neat, tidy half breeds, that for lack of weight could not dress high enough to take the top of the markets. Prices then ranged as follows: Poor Steers from 9c.@9½c. ₱ lb.; Common Steers from 9c.@11½c. ₱ lb.; good Steers from 12c.@13c. ₱ lb.; extra prime Steers all the way upward to 15c.@16c. ₱ lb. Nevertheless, be it remembered, very few of the latter came to hand. Weights averaged from [illegible] cwt., from 6½ cwt. to 7½ cwt., from 8 cwt. to 10 cwt., weights allowed, 52 lbs. to 54 lbs. to 56 lbs. to 57 lbs. to 58 lbs. to 60 lbs. to the cwt. net. These weights were allowed rather in proportion to the high breeding of the Steers than to their actual live weights, as fine horned Cattle dress far better relatively than do coarse native steers. With spring prices fell, and by Midsummer the Live Stock trade was very low, so also was the quality of the horned Cattle forwarded last. Range of prices generally from 7c.@[illegible] ₱ lb.; extreme range from 4½c.@12½c. ₱ lb. on some weights, as above given. During the early Autumn months the trade in Live [illegible] proved a trifle, prices, however, did not advance [illegible] there was a larger proportion of fair quality [illegible] sent forward, and in consequence an [illegible] amount of higher rates. It was not, however, [illegible] the commencement of this year's [illegible] really rose, and as the Christmas Cattle [illegible] hand these Steers sold from 12½c.@14½c. ₱ lb., being fully as choice and ripe for the Christmas [illegible] sold the previous year from 14c.@[illegible] ₱ lb., thus it will be seen that Horned Cattle used as human food have fallen very sensibly indeed. The [illegible] have made large [illegible] in the extra Cattle than in the lower grades, yet it is fully as great in all ranges. If we allow, as we should, that for one extra prime Steer sold as weight there are scores of good Steers, hundreds of medium quality Steers, and almost thousands of poor Steers, annually disposed of. The States that forwarded beef Cattle to us can thus be classed: Illinois first for quantity, including poor native Steers, medium grade Steers, and extra prime Steers. Kentucky and Ohio stand alike numerically, but rich Kentucky outshines her fair sister, in that she sent us a larger proportion of extra quality Steers; range of quality in both States from common coarse but fat Steers to extra prime Steers. Some heavy herds reached us from Indiana, of these, some needed blood to reduce waste, and thereby render them profitable to the farmer and butcher. They generally sold from 10c.@11c. ₱ lb., extreme range of prices 9c.@12c. ₱ lb., with now and then a small top lot at 12½c. ₱ lb. Iowa, Missouri and Michigan Steers, together with those from Western New-York, were a general disgrace to those who raised them; [illegible] then. They sold from 8c.@10c. ₱ lb., ranging down sometimes to 7c.@8c. ₱ lb. Texans and Cherokee Steers, except when grazed in some neighboring State, were too miserable to sell, and constantly stood from one market day to another, and had at length to be sold by the head from $18@$22 ₱ head, on an estimated weight of 58 lbs. to the cwt., at 1½c.@2½c. ₱ lb., rarely realizing 5 cwt. net. The condition of trade since our last weekly report has been dull; no sales of horned Cattle on either Wednesday or Thursday last, except a small drooping trade on forenoon of Thursday, effected in Cattle that had stood over from Monday's markets. On Friday, at Communipaw Yards, trade was fair; prices ranged from 9c.@12½c. ₱ lb., with 22 Steers sold at 13c. ₱ lb., weights from 5½ cwt. to 12 cwt., on 56 lbs. to 58 lbs. to 60 lbs. to the cwt. net. On Sunday forenoon, at Weehawken Yards; only 28 cars of horned Cattle arrived, all light medium Steers; prices from 8c.@11c. ₱ lb., weights from 6 cwt. to 7 cwt., on 54 lbs. to 57 lbs. to the cwt. net. On this forenoon, at One Hundredth-street Yards, trade in horned Cattle was good, and as the supply was light, the market closed firm; prices from 9½c.@12c. ₱ lb.; weights from 5 cwt. to 11½ cwt., on 57 lbs. to 60 lbs. to the cwt., net; quality from common to good.

MILCH COWS.

During the entire of the year 1871 trade in Milch Cows has been from bad to worse, with now and then a brief effort to improve, which has invariably died out as soon as it arose. There has been no lack of poor things for the dealers in Milch Cows, as quality never got up to good, but hopelessly held on from miserable to medium, a fair Dairy Cow seldom coming to hand. There has been some [illegible] in price, the range being from $35@$55 ₱ head for poor Cows, from hence upward to $75 ₱ head for fair Cows, with the best quality on hand from $100@$110 ₱ head. This week trade has held the same as heretofore, and thus closes the year. Sales seldom reached 100 head weekly.

VEALS.

The trade in Veals has been very steady for the past year. During the height of the Summer Live Veals were in demand, but during the Spring and Autumn, and still more in the Winter months, Country-dressed Veals forwarded direct to butchers pushed the live article out of favor. Prices ranged entirely according to quality. Bobs from 4c.@6c. ₱ lb. Buttermilk fed Calves from 5c.@7c. ₱ lb. Grass-fed Calves from 6c.@8c. ₱ lb.; best milk-fed Veals from 9c.@11c. ₱ lb. Generally the Calves on hand were of medium quality, and sold from 7c.@9c. ₱ lb. There is but little if any prime Veal sent to our Eastern markets. American farmers clearly do not understand how to fatten fine Veals.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

There has been no branch of trade in the Live Stock Markets that has improved as the trade in Sheep and Lambs has during the year just about to close. Prices, it is true, have not taken a wide range, but large flocks of choice, fat Sheep and Lambs have reached us weekly, and that also in increasing numbers, yet there has not been a glut, even for one day, so good has the aggregate quality been, while last year one glut of poor, lean, miserable Sheep and Lambs followed hard on to the other. Much of this new prosperity in the Mutton and Lamb trade is due to the rise in Wools, and to the consequent improvement in the average quality of the flocks throughout the country. Sheep and Lambs reached us from Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, New-Jersey, Western New-York and Canada. The poorest quality always arrived from the Western States, and sold from 4c.@5c. ₱ lb. Those from Ohio, Kentucky and Western New-York sold from 5c.@7c. ₱ lb. Jersey flocks were mixed; these sold from 4c.@7c. ₱ lb. Canada Sheep were choice, and sold from 6c.@8c. ₱ lb. Lambs sold from 5c.@8c. ₱ lb. during the past three months; from 7c.@10c.@11c. ₱ lb. for the Summer months, and Spring Lambs sold from 10c.@12c. ₱ lb.; all trade was effected on live weight. Choice shipping sheep always sold 1c. ₱ lb. higher than current rates. On this forenoon at Forty-eighth-street Sheep Yards only one lot of choice Ohio Lambs were sold; 22 head, weight 1,715 lbs., at 8c. ₱ lb. The fresh arrivals were 377 Sheep and Lambs and 15 Cows.

SWINE.

We have little to tell our readers relative to the Hog trade that can encourage them in the raising of Hogs. This branch of trade, in all its sections, has been wonderfully uncertain. It has gone up and down with the mercury. A warm, genial sun has sent prices down, while a fierce north-easter, laden with icicles, has sent the markets up. Also there has generally been an oversupply, one drove of hogs rarely cleared off before another stood on its hoofs. Then again the trade is cut up more than any other. There are commission Hogs, there are Hogs consigned direct to slaughterers, and City-dressed Hogs, to contend for precedence over Western dressed Hogs. The range of prices has been great. Live Hogs sold from $4@$6 ₱ cwt. Bacon Pigs from 5c.@6c. ₱ lb. City Dressed Hogs from 6½c.@8½c. ₱ lb.; Bacon Pigs, from 5½c.@6c. ₱ lb. Western Dressed from 1c.@½c. ₱ lb. lower than City Dressed grades. The closing markets of this year have been uncertain, with, however, a downward tendency. There are too many coarse Hogs badly fed and worse treated in the far off West than the East, even aided by foreign consumption can consume. What is needed is to improve the American Hog by making him a neat, fine boned fast maturing animal.

Horse Market.

In writing of our City trade in Horses we are limited to the unsavory precincts of East Twenty-fourth-street, and some poorly-conducted livery stables, where the unwary neophite is mercilessly fleeced, and where a good animal rarely enters. There is no doubt that while the general trade in Horses of all sorts increases, City trade in them is on the wane; and this is well. There is no need of a Horse market in any city; one accredited establishment where Horses could be sold at weekly auction, or on private sale is all that is needed. Hole and corner business invariably does more harm than can be remedied, except when it completely breaks down a bad form of trade. During this now closing year the prices of Horses has been ruled by the quality, and not by supply and demand, both of which have relatively been firm. Ordinary harness Horses, for City teaming and for railroad-cars, sold freely from $150@$200 ₱ head; choice animals, with some style, from $275@$300 ₱ head; matched teams of some shades from $450@$600 ₱ head; light harness Horses from $300@$500 ₱ head; matched teams from $600@$1,000 ₱ head; trotters, according to time and style, from $500@$2,000 ₱ head; large stylish brougham Horses from $1,000@$2,000 ₱ head; matched pairs of stately carriage Horses, suited for family use, from $1,600@$3,000 the pair; choice high-bred saddle Horses from $300@$1,000 ₱ head; thoroughbred Colts and Fillies, unfit for racing purposes, to be broken as saddle horses, from $105@$400 ₱ head. At several of the auction sales in this City poor, unsound Horses sold from $30@$100 ₱ head. No sales in Horses since our last weekly report owing in the main to the almost impassible condition of our streets and Park roadways. Race Horses, blood Mares and fast Trotters are not quoted in the above report.

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, DEC. 26, 1871.

Amusements This Evening.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Il Trovatore. (Italian Opera.) Miss Christine Nilsson.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Portillon of Lorelmeau. Mr. Theo. Wachtel.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—Julius Cæsar.—Mr. Edwin Booth.

BIRLOW GARDEN.—The Black Crook.—Miss Kate Stanley.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—John Garth.—Mr. Lester Wallack.

FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.—Divorce.—Change in by company.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Humpty Dumpty.—Mr. G. L. Fox and Kirsky Troupe.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—Ticket-of-Leave Man.—Mr. and Mrs. Florence.

AIMEE'S OPERA-HOUSE.—Babes Bleue. (Opera Bouffe.)—Mlle. Aimee.

UNION-SQUARE THEATRE.—Variety Performance.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.—Dramatic Performance and Curiosities.—Afternoon and Evening.

P. T. BARNUM'S MUSEUM, MENAGERIE AND CIRCUS.—Empire Rink, day and evening.

NEW-YORK CIRCUS.—Equestrian, Gymnastic and Athletic Feats. Matinee at 2½.

HOOS'S SOUTHERN CIRCUS.—Equestrian, Gymnastic and Athletic Feats. Matinee at 2½.

BRYANT'S OPERA-HOUSE.—Negro Minstrelsy.—Farces.

STEINWAY HALL.—Dramatic Readings by Mr. Geo. M. Ogden.

The New-York Times.

TERMS TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

The DAILY TIMES, per annum, including the Sunday Edition.....$15
The DAILY TIMES, per annum, exclusive of the Sunday Edition.....12
The Sunday Edition, per annum.....3
The semi-WEEKLY, per annum.....5
The semi-WEEKLY, ten copies one year, (an extra copy to getter-up of club).....35
The WEEKLY TIMES, per annum.....2
The WEEKLY TIMES, five copies, one year.....8
The WEEKLY TIMES, ten copies, one year, (an extra copy to getter-up of club).....15
The WEEKLY TIMES, twenty copies, one year, (an extra copy to getter-up of club).....25
The WEEKLY TIMES, fifty copies, one year.....50
The EUROPEAN EDITION, per annum, postage extra. 3
The semi-WEEKLY and WEEKLY mailed one year to one address at the lowest club rates.

Names to either of our editions received for a less length of time than one year at the yearly rate.

Additions may be made to clubs at club rates.

These prices are invariable. There is no deviation from them. Money Orders if payable and where neither of these can be procured send the money in a registered letter.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES,
New-York City.

Notices.

We cannot notice anonymous communications. In all cases we require the writer's name and address, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot undertake any responsibility for rejected communications, nor can we undertake to preserve manuscripts.

☞ Advertisements for the WEEKLY TIMES must be handed in before 10 o'clock this evening.

To Advertisers.

☞ For the accommodation of up-town residents, advertisements for insertion in the TIMES will be received at No. 54 West 33d-st., junction of Broadway and 6th-av., and No. 1,941 Broadway, between 36th and 37th sts., at same rates as are charged at office of publication.

☞ The NEW-YORK TIMES has opened a branch office in Brooklyn at No. 44 Court-st., opposite the City Hall, where advertisements will be received until 7 P. M.

"H." forwards us a check for $30, and says "God bless the poor children, and those who espouse their cause as you do." The money has been forwarded to Mr. C. L. BRACE, who will make the division requested by the donor—namely, $10 for the Children's Aid Society, $5 for the Five Points Mission, and $5 for the Newsboys' Home. We will undertake to say that twenty dollars were never better expended by "H." in charitable purposes. We have visited the institutions named, and know that they are the means of rescuing hundreds of homeless, starving children from the streets. Let it be remembered that no poor child is turned away from their friendly doors. "A. M." also sends us $5 for the Children's Aid Society, and says, "I inclose a small sum to help the Children's Aid Society. I wish I could increase it ten-fold." We hope our wealthier readers will take the hint, and contribute according to their means as "A. M." has done. If they would take the trouble to go and see any one of the institutions under the management of the Children's Aid Society, they would need no further appeal from us. We have now received and forwarded to Mr. BRACE since Saturday, the following contributions, and we should be glad to see the list extended:

E. M.	$2 00	A. C.	$1 00
J. W.	5 00	Jennie.	10 00
J. L.	5 00	J. C.	75
A Mechanic	1 00	H.	30 00
T. W. B.	1 00	A. M.	5 00
Total			$68 75

Judge BEDFORD'S Grand Jury, as we may call it for the sake of convenience, meets again today, and is expected to transact important business. Already this body of gentlemen has accomplished more than the public dared to hope from it, and it has done its work in the face of many obstacles. It has had some excellent business men upon it, and they have devoted a very large portion of their valuable time to its duties. We are informed, and are glad to believe, that Judge BEDFORD has co-operated cordially with it. It will also probably appear that Mr. SAMUEL J. TILDEN has rendered it valuable assistance. Altogether, the public has much cause to be grateful to this Grand Jury.

Work for the Legislature.

The Legislature that is to assemble in Albany a week from today will find itself called upon to perform duties, and assume responsibilities, far exceeding in magnitude and importance those that have devolved on any previous Legislature in the last twenty years. First will come the task of providing a suitable charter for this great City, which now comprises nearly one-fifth of the entire population of the State, and the good or bad government of which affects more or less directly a large proportion of the people of the whole country. With the experience of the past as a guide, and with the many experiments which have been tried, and have failed, to serve as a warning, it ought not, one would think, to be a very difficult thing to frame a charter for the Government of this City, that should meet the reasonable expectations of the public, and acquire some degree of permanence. The Committee of Seventy, in accordance with the recommendations of the TIMES, has tried its hand at the work, and the result of its deliberations has been laid before the public. Though by no means a perfect charter, it has met with favorable criticism, as a whole, and is, without doubt, a great improvement on any plan for the government of the City that has hitherto been presented. If any man or body of men can devise a better code, or can suggest improvements on the Committee's charter, it is their duty to do so; and their suggestions will doubtless be favorably considered by the Committee. It is desirable that the charter should be presented to the Legislature as nearly perfect as possible, and that it should go there with the general indorsement of the public in advance; otherwise there will be encouragement held out to politicians, both in and out of the Legislature, to tinker and modify it in such a way as to make it serve partisan and selfish ends.

Next to the charter, and perhaps preceding it in importance, will be the duty of framing an Election law that will secure to the people of this City and Brooklyn the right, which they have not enjoyed for the last ten years, of voting for the man of their choice, of having their votes counted as polled, and of being protected against fraudulent and illegal voting and repeating. Such a law may be found almost as difficult to frame as a perfect charter, but the necessity for it is even more urgent, and we trust that the Committee of Seventy will give it equally earnest and careful attention. If human ingenuity is inadequate to devise means to secure a pure and honest exercise of the elective franchise, then we might as well admit that government, based on universal suffrage, has proved a failure. If the corner-stone is defective, or rotten, and cannot be repaired, the whole superstructure must ultimately fall to the ground. But we know perfectly well that efficient safeguards can be found, if the people's representatives will only do their duty.

The third most important subject for the action of the next Legislature will be the entire remodeling of the statutes regulating the duties and emoluments of our port officials—Quarantine officers, harbor-masters, port wardens, &c. This is a subject that deeply interests the merchants of New-York, and it may even be said that the future commercial prosperity of the City depends to a great extent on a thorough and radical reform. The kind of legislation that is required to correct existing abuses is best known to the merchants themselves, and it is their duty to present to the Legislature a detailed statement of their views on the subject. It would be well if some representative body, like the Chamber of Commerce, would cause to be drawn up, in legal form, for presentation to the Legislature, a series of enactments that should cover the whole ground of reform in legislation pertaining to this port, and urge their passage by that body. No Legislature could resist the combined influence of the merchants of this City, in favor of such legislation as they should declare to be for the interests of commerce.

Among the other pressing duties that will devolve upon the next Legislature will be that of providing some means of quick transit through this City. This is a subject that directly interests every citizen of New-York, and the people insist that some practical action shall be taken on it without further delay. The private interests of speculators, and the rivalries among the different schemes for quick transit, should no longer be permitted to interfere with an improvement that is imperatively demanded for the convenience of the public.

In addition to the above, the coming Legislature will be called upon to devise some legislation to protect the people from the tyranny and extortion of those odious monopolies—the gas companies. They will also be expected to revise the system of Police and Justices' Courts in this City, and to adopt measures to purify the Bench of the higher Courts. The field of labor for a Reform Legislature is, indeed, almost without limit, and the Senators and Assemblymen who are to meet in Albany next week have a rare opportunity to distinguish themselves as legislators, and to earn the lasting gratitude of the long-suffering people of this City.

A Eclipse to the Dark Ages.

On Sunday night many persons were standing in the avenues that cross Thirty-fourth-street, and gazing northward beyond that locality as upon some strange phenomenon. The sight was truly an uncommon one. Instead of the usual rows of lights running away into twinkling perspective, there was seen pitchy darkness. The gas explosion of the day before had thus afforded opportunities for testing the difference between bad gas and no gas at all. Few housekeeping gas have facilities for other artificial light, and the resource of candles or kerosene was debarred for the most part by the fact that Sunday followed the night of the accident. Hence, in some dwellings on Sunday evening there was literally no light at all. Some fortunate possessors of candles, but having no candlesticks, set forth their treasures in bottles. We heard of others reduced to the antique device of saucers of olive-oil and improvised wicks of cotton. Happily the skies were almost cloudless, and the moon nearly at the full, so that the serious inconvenience of utter darkness out of doors was not added to that of the obscurity within.

The sudden withdrawal of a single one of the modern appliances in constant use is a forcible reminder of how much we depend upon such things, and how full of inconveniences daily life would be without them. At 8 o'clock, from the time of the Norman conquest and up to the reign of HENRY I., out all fires and all candles had to go, while on Sunday last the darkness set in some three hours earlier. Since furnaces give no light up stairs, and the day was too warm for additional fires, the parallel was almost exactly carried out. Debarred from reading and other customary exercises, people in the darkened district were restricted to conversation and reflection. In some quarters the opportunity was taken, we are informed, to hold spiritual séances, with results—possible on the lucus a non lucendo principle—totally undreamt of in the same circles before. The absence of light, as most readers know, is highly favorable to these demonstrations, and Mr. D. D. HOME would have found New-York, above Thirty-fourth-street, on Sunday night, a perfect spiritual paradise. But the occasion suggested other thoughts and other themes. Suppose, for example, the community to be simultaneously deprived, not of gas only, but of all the things which, unknown a century or so ago, are now held indispensable to comfort. Suppose the water to be cut off from our houses, the rail-cars and telegraphs to stop, the furnaces to be put out, the printing presses to be silenced, and all these processes to be coincident with darkness like that of Sunday! Most people would say, on first thought, that life would be insupportable on such conditions. And yet the great mass of our predecessors, clear down the long line of the centuries, have lived through just such deprivations, and have enjoyed, meanwhile, an average share of happiness.

In the same way it is reasonable to suppose, that coming generations will enjoy appliances as yet unknown to ourselves, the loss of which will appear to them equally intolerable. They will doubtless look back upon our comparatively ignorant and barbarous age with the mingled pity and wonder with which we regard the curfew times of WILLIAM the Conqueror. We can imagine the commiseration with which a gentleman who comes down to his office from Central Park in ten minutes in a luxurious armchair will look back on his miserable wretches, hanging on to greasy straps in a filthy horse-car, to be rubbed and jammed and buffeted by people still more filthy, for a whole hour in traversing the same space. We can conceive the feeling with which a lady of the future, who will walk, clean shod, from the Battery to Fourteenth-street on the day after a heavy snow-storm that has been succeeded by a thaw, will survey in the retrospect her unhappy grandmother, who waded through slush in the water while going the same journey. We can picture to ourselves a clean and honestly-governed City, a New-York uniting the beautiful and useful, like a happy combination of Paris and London; a Metropolis with perfect sewage, girdled with granite and marble piers, embellished with a rich and noble architecture; a capital with unrivaled transit, hotels, theatres and clubs; a New-York uncursed by TWEEDS and SWEENYS and HALLS, with a society neither "led" by such as BELMONT nor contaminated by such as FISK; a society wherein money, no matter how got, will not be a passport to the highest honors, and wherein the discovery of rascality will be promptly followed by its punishment; and we can fancy the inhabitants of such a civic Utopia looking back upon our time, and thanking Heaven that they did not live in it.

The Land of Port Wine.

The cable informed us a few days ago that the United States are the innocent cause of serious uneasiness to Portugal. It is not that the quiet little bit of the Iberian Peninsula is in apprehension of any political revolution. Her trouble arises from the fact that a portion of her scanty population—one which she can least spare—is on its way to our shores, and that there is much reason to apprehend that more "are going to go." Probably the majority of our readers have been hitherto ignorant of these circumstances. So little have we, as yet, appreciated the gain which is poor Portugal's loss.

No doubt the exodus of their skilled workmen is to the Portuguese a painful evidence of the state of their country, which appears to be not merely that of stagnation, but of retrogression in some most important respects. For thirty years, Portugal has not had a budget without a deficit, and Mr. Micawber's—or, as we now know, CHARLES DICKENS' father—admirably just observations on the misery of an individual who exceeds his income, apply with nearly as much force to countries doing the same. It is stated, indeed, that for ten years past Portugal has, on an average, been exceeding her income by $3,500,000 a year. The public debt, which was $100,000,000 in 1854, had increased to $286,000,000 in 1867; and, in the teeth of this, trade has terribly decreased in several branches.

The commerce of Portugal is almost exclusively with Great Britain. Its staple is wine. This has, for some years past, shown a decided decline. In 1865 the value of wine exported to England was £1,145,194, in 1869 it had fallen by steady annual diminution to £861,656. No doubt this is, in great measure owing to the taste which the British public had by similar degrees been acquiring for the light wines of France and the Rhine, and probably Mr. OLIVEIRA, an English member of Parliament, of Portuguese descent, who unceasingly urged on Mr. GLADSTONE, and not without effect, the expediency of reducing the wine duty, had little calculated on the disastrous effect it would entail on a country to which he was attached by ties both of kindred and interest.

Of late years, the consumption of Port wine has declined enormously in England. From long usage it makes its appearance on the dessert table, but not one man in ten drinks it. The popular taste turns once more to claret, which was the favorite wine in the three Kingdoms—as it ever continued in Ireland—long before Port came into fashion. But the decline of Port in popular favor is barely sufficient to explain for the gradual progress in "calm decay" of the country which produces it, and it seems difficult to account for so very unsatisfactory an aspect of affairs. It certainly does not appear to spring from a lack of liberty, for at the present time no country, probably, is practically more free. The civil war of 1834, which established Queen MARIA, mother of the present King, upon the throne, effectually and permanently suppressed the supremacy of the clergy. In 1858 the hereditary peerage was abolished. Any one has a vote who possesses a clear income of $110,000 a year, and the property qualification of a Deputy is only four times that sum. The King's veto is valueless when an act has twice received the consent of both Houses. Education is at all events quite as much diffused as in Spain or Italy, have been for years, and is entirely free from clerical control.

The chief causes of Portuguese stagnation must, we believe, be sought in the disinclination from Brazil; the apathy and torpor incidental to the priestly rule which for so many years cramped the energies of the country; a bad, complicated tariff; and last, but by no means least, the utter inattention which has been displayed in creating facility of locomotion. Up to quite a recent date there were scarcely half a dozen good roads in the country, and today the extent of railroad is ludicrously small. "There be three things which make a nation great and prosperous," said BACON. "A fertile soil, busy work-shops, and easy conveyance of men and things from one place to another." Portugal has always been eminently destitute of the last. This we believe to be a main cause of her increasing depression. Agriculture, to succeed, must be connected with trade, and in Portugal both are stagnant, because they cannot easily combine. The towns, therefore, languish as the country does. Of what use is it that Lisbon enjoys a natural commercial position second to none, if no roads lead to her? Perhaps no better proof of the prostrate condition of the country can be adduced than the fact that this city of extraordinary advantages does not yet include three hundred thousand inhabitants, while Oporto has not a third of the number.

The present King of Portugal ascended the throne in 1861. He succeeded his brother, a young man of peculiar promise, whose plans and aspirations for the benefit of his kingdom excited the warm interest and sympathy of his father's near kinsman, the lamented husband of Queen VICTORIA. But the same deadly disease that was fated to cut short the days of that enlightened Prince, finished all too soon the career of the young King, his cousin. Lisbon was plunged into mourning for the death of her Sovereign, in his twenty-fifth year, just a month before London was in lamentation for the demise of her Queen's consort. Indeed, it is commonly stated that the King's death had a most seriously depressing effect upon the Prince Consort in his illness. The reigning Monarch seems a perfectly harmless young man, but not one to lift his languishing land out of the slough of decadence into which it has fallen. What Portugal pre-eminently wants at this moment, is a man. Failing the discovery of such a boon, her future is melancholy indeed, and threatens at no distant date to present the sad spectacle of utter and hopeless decay.

A Year's Railroad Accidents.

From a record of the railroad disasters in the United States, dating from the beginning of November, 1870 to the end of October, 1871, we glean the following facts. The report in question is compiled simply from newspaper records of casualties by rail, and is thus only an approximation to the entire truth. The whole table comprises returns of 107 railroad "accidents," the greater portion of which were, strictly speaking, not accidents at all. It shows a total of 91 killed and 254 wounded, as the result of collisions, locomotive explosions, giving way of bridges, and trains running off the track. Were our railroads worked as they ought to be, it is perfectly obvious that collisions at least ought to rank as impossible occurrences. Of this class of accidents, there were 40 in all during the period referred to, showing a total of 108 persons killed and 211 wounded. That is to say, two-thirds of the killed and nearly one-third of the wounded were, beyond any doubt, victims of the negligent or penurious management of railroad corporations. The foremost place in the record of slaughter is occupied by the Revere disaster, on Aug. 26; the New-Hamburg tragedy, on Feb. 6, follows in the magnitude of its results; while the train thrown from a bridge at Harper's River, Tennessee, and the collision at Edwardsville, Ill., take the third and fourth places. These four events alone account for seventy-nine dead and eighty-nine wounded, while if the accident at Bangor, Me., on Aug. 9, be added to the list, five disasters will be found to account for 81 killed and 148 wounded.

Perhaps the most striking thing about the entire record is, that it would be impossible to find a single case where the work of negligent officials or incapable management has been followed by its legitimate punishment of manslaughter. It is true that when we consider the enormous distance—some fifty-four thousand miles, traversed by American railroads, and the vast commerce, equal to some four hundred and fifty million dollars a year, which this represents—the list of casualties is not calculated to excite alarm. It is safe to say, for example, that tried by any such test as mileage, or even of the gross number of passengers carried over a given distance, the fatal and serious accidents on street railroads would be proportionately much more numerous. On the other hand, it is right to bear in mind that 170 people killed outright is a far heavier penalty than we ought to pay in a year for rapid locomotion. If the virtual murderers of the larger proportion of these people had been promptly brought to justice, we should have a much better prospect next year of reducing the catalogue of railroad slaughters. As it is, it seems to be as difficult to bring railroad directors and officials to a strict judicial reckoning, as it used to be to convict a Tammany politician.

Police, Health and Fire Departments.

Our readers will have noticed, without doubt, the omission from the charter of the Committee of Seventy of definite provision for the Departments of Police, Health, and Fire. It is assumed by a morning paper, which is nothing if not partisan, that this omission was caused by the desire of the Committee to revive the Metropolitan Commissions in charge of these Departments, and our contemporary adds, with characteristic jealousy, that the object of the Committee is to produce a powerful partisan instrument for controlling elections. It even goes so far as to state that the purpose of the Committee is "confessed." We say ignorant

[illegible] this remarkable assertion is made, but whether there be any basis for it or not, we have no hesitation in pronouncing the assumption with reference to the motive of the Committee absurdly mistaken. The Committee needs no defense of its impartiality. It was proved by its actions in the last political campaign, when the paper that now seeks to discredit it was doing the dirtiest work of Tammany.

But it is a question well worth considering whether the Departments of Fire, Health, and Police of the City might not be placed under the general supervision of one Board, and whether that Board might not to advantage extend its operations, and receive a proportionate number of its members from the surrounding districts of Kings, Queens, Richmond and Westchester Counties. It is certain that between the three new separate Departments there exists an intimate relation. The duties of the Fire and Health Departments are to a great extent of the same nature with those of the Police. They all are described by the term supervision, and the province of all is such that much of the work can be done with great saving of force and expense by the same men.

It is equally certain that the duties of these several Departments are only in a very limited sense local. They are provided to guard against dangers which are to a great extent common to all the inhabitants of the counties we have mentioned. A large portion of the expense of the several Departments consists first in the higher grades of their organization, which are now not only made expensive to this City by the existence of separate Departments, but are multiplied many times by the separate provision for neighboring districts. If the whole district described were under a common organization, a reserve would always exist in the ordinary force sufficient for any demand likely to be made from any locality.

Nor is it to be inferred, as it seems so readily to be, that the Board having charge of such consolidated Departments would necessarily be formed on the principle which prevailed in the Metropolitan Commissions. It would be possible to provide for a Board, having all the advantages of consolidation, and offending none of the prejudices aroused by our previous Commissions. The Metropolitan Board of Works of London, which has accomplished some of the most extensive enterprises ever proposed for sanitary purposes, is made up of representatives of thirty-eight districts, chosen by the local Boards. It is as practicable to unite contiguous districts, whose inhabitants have common interests for the care of certain defined subjects, as it is to consolidate suburbs with the City itself. And certainly no interests could be more clearly common than those affected by Sanitary and Police organization, while those protected by the Fire Department are scarcely less so.

Foundling Asylums.

It is one of the misfortunes attending a benevolent community like ours of New-York, that so many new charitable efforts are commenced without any due consideration either of what has been done, or of what can be done, in the proposed field of work. We published, on a recent Sunday, a carefully prepared paper, the result of years of experience, from an expert in such matters, on the proper treatment of "Foundlings." Since then, various meetings have been held, prospectuses issued, and addresses delivered in this City and Brooklyn, having in view the opening an Asylum for Foundlings, under Protestant auspices; but so far as we have been able to discover, no consideration has been given to the careful results of wisdom and experience as set forth in that paper. The benevolent ladies and gentlemen who are laboring in this philanthropic field will evidently only add another to the painful list of experiments for foundlings unless they pay heed to these lessons. The science of charity is known now to have its exact rules and principles, and those who violate them will inevitably come to grief.

The first question which arises in beginning an enterprise in behalf of these unfortunate children is, how far will crime be encouraged by affording facilities to the mothers to dispose of their offspring? So great have the evils to society been found to be of relieving mothers of this natural duty, that Foundling Asylums have come into disrepute in Great Britain, and are turned in great degree into Orphan Asylums. In France, after the revolution, so morbid and sentimental was the feeling toward women who had violated their first obligation, that "turning tables" were provided where mothers could deposit their offspring, and no questions would ever be asked. This arrangement was found to at once stimulate crime and encourage abandonment, and is now given up. Indeed, the general experience of Europe is in favor of requiring as much as possible from the mother, and making her act of desertion as public and formal as can be. The true course of wisdom is to place all the natural duties on the mother which are possible, but where great poverty, or other circumstances, might tempt to infanticide, to offer the despairing woman shelter and care for her child. If the mother can be detained in charge of the infant but a short period, the maternal instinct is so strong that she will seldom thereafter abandon it.

But over and above this primary question there arises the dreadful problem of caring for the foundlings when once they are received. They are bold men and women who venture to take the responsibility. Nature has apparently given an edict that each babe must be cared for by its own mother or by one nurse. The neglect of this meets with terrible punishment. Foundling Asylums have been shambles of infants. Often not ten out of a hundred live. The common result in some of the best institutions is that but twenty-five per cent. survive. Even the small Tewksbury Asylum in Massachusetts, under the charge of experts, and with the lessons of science and experience to guide them, showed a mortality in a recent year of fifty per cent. Our own Randall's Island Asylum, which is very carefully managed, presents a mortality of one-half. We venture to say that any private asylum, will show a greater rate of mortality, unless it has extraordinary facilities to supply one wet-nurse to each infant—a generous arrangement, which for the charge of the thousand motherless children of New-York, would require an income for nurses alone of $600,000. The truth is that the Protestant Association now proposing to found a foundling asylum, will need, if they have a healthful and successful institution, an enormous income; and even after securing this they will not save half as many children as they would under the other system, of which we will now speak.

Let these ladies, instead of crowding the little helpless creatures in one building, contrive a machinery similar to that of the "Children's Aid Society" of this City, for placing these infants with kind hearted respectable nurses in the country. For this purpose they would only require a depot or a house for temporary accommodation; they would be under no expense of money for nurses or officials, or for large asylum buildings. All they would need would be means to pay for a transporting agent, advertising, and perhaps a supervising traveling agent, with here and there the payment of temporary board for the infants. Large numbers of families in the country would adopt the children, and give them the best education the country could afford. They would thus grow up under much better circumstances than any asylum could ever offer them.

The great expenses of an asylum arise from the permanent support of their inmates. By this plan, the support is mainly thrown upon the community, and the outcast infant grows up under natural conditions. The cost of such a Foundling Society is purely nominal compared with that of an asylum. If a wet-nurse were employed, the annual cost could not be much less than six hundred dollars for each child; if an ordinary attendant, it would reach at least three hundred dollars, including food. And this, be it remembered, in addition to the interest on the cost of large buildings and the maintenance of a staff of officials.

The French system for "placing out" foundlings—that of the *Enfants Assistés*—makes the average cost of each child relieved only about $3 per annum. With the Children's Aid Society, the average expense, including salaries of all officials and traveling fares, &c., is only $15 per head. Under the French system, the former mortality of foundlings was at once reduced to something like the death-rate of other children—or about fifteen per cent. Will not our benevolent ladies carefully consider these facts before they collect funds for that most doubtful institution—a foundling asylum?

MINOR TOPICS.

The Metropolitan Gas Company managed to supply the benighted natives of their district with a little gas last night, and we hope the supply will be still better to-night. We fear, however, that the consumers will not save much by the temporary stoppage. Any quantity of air rushes through the pipes, and it will undoubtedly count as gas in the bill. Several statements have been sent to us (one by an eminent chemist) to the effect that the explosion was caused by an attempt of the Company to adulterate their gas beyond the usual liberal proportions. The chemist in question found the quality deteriorate considerably for several days prior to the explosion. The public has been most illiberally treated by all the gas companies, and the Legislature will certainly be called upon to bring them to book. Formerly, the companies have easily bought off all opposition; but next year we hope the tax-payers will have fair play.

Chicago had got so far on the track of New-York, when it was burned up, that as announced by the new Mayor, Mr. JOSEPH MEDILL, of the Chicago *Tribune*, a secret debt of $613,000 had been run up against the city. There was pending at the time of the fire a proposition, which has since been renewed, to fund this sum, with a half million more that had subsequently mysteriously grown up. The machinery proposed was almost identical with the *ad interim* Board of Audit, but too well known to our own citizens. Unlike our own Mayor, Mr. MEDILL is an honest man, and promptly refuses to pay one cent of the "claims" referred to. The Ring contractors are signing for "one day of OAKEY HALL."

The case of the Lower California Colonization Company against the Mexican Government appears to be a somewhat loose one. In the first place, the grant to the Company declared that as soon as the colonists were established in any part of the Territory they should be considered as Mexican citizens. The right of our Government to redress the wrongs of the expelled colonists is thus not very apparent. Having accepted allegiance to a foreign power there is no third party that can well step in and determine whether the forfeiture of the grant made to the colonists has been legal or arbitrary. The further questions of whether the colonists had any right to make Magdalena Bay a free port, to gather orchilla on the public lands or to do any of the other things objected to by the Mexicans are equally outside of the jurisdiction of the United States Government, if, as alleged, the immigrant population of the settlement had virtually accepted the obligations of Mexican citizenship.

The *Miners' Journal* estimates that the yield of the anthracite coal district will this year reach fifteen and a half millions of tons. For 1872, the probable product is set down at nineteen millions of tons. Of the increased production of three and a half millions of tons, it is presumed that the market can, during 1872, take off two millions of tons, leaving a glut in the market of one million and a half. The conclusions deduced from these figures are, that this ability to overstock the market will prevent any rise in the price of coal from the present rates: and that it would be folly in the men to demand any thing beyond the prices fixed in May, 1871, viz., a basis of $2 25 sliding down to $2 25. With coal at $2 50 as a basis for labor, the *Journal* states that miners would receive $13 a week, inside laborers $10, and outside laborers $9. This, we may readily agree with the *Journal*, is "as low as labor ought to go."

Mr. LEWIS W. CLARK, Chairman of the Democratic State Committee of New-Hampshire, was moved last July to write a letter to Gov. HOFFMAN, approving of his action in regard to the Orange parade. The Irish Catholic voters of New-Hampshire resented [illegible] Mr. CLARK and all his adherents, and [illegible] evening defeat of the Democracy in the Granite State. Finding that Mr. CLARK had become the [illegible] they [illegible] to throw him overboard as a preparatory exercise to the fray Coiro. In New-Hampshire, as elsewhere, it is obvious that the ruling portion of the Democracy regard the [illegible] loss than the expedient. It may have been a very natural thing to sacrifice a man who disapproved of mob rule to the dictation of a mob, but such a step is not calculated to show that the Democracy have yet found any of those party principles of which they have lately been so busily in search.

Mount Hecla and the Cow Shower—Letter to Commodore Vanderbilt.

Commodore Vanderbilt:

DEAR SIR: It has been the privilege of few men to benefit their State and country in relations to progress and internal development more than yourself. In so doing, you have furnished likewise to your own and future generations an illustrious example of what industry and energy may accomplish under a free Government. Great wealth has resulted to you from those achievements, and one, if not the greatest, element of success, I venture to assert, has been the horse. To this silent, generous, plodding servant and agent of civilization, you owe, along with the rest of us, more than half the benefits resulting from your genius. At the same time, whence is extracted the ore with which you have paved the earth, and spanned distance of easy access; at the plow, in the wilderness, in the rocky excavation, on mountain top, and in the earth-pierced tunnel, the patient and devoted friend has ever been found by the side of man. And here, too, upon the hard and slippery streets of our Metropolis, is heard his steady tramp by day and night, giving wealth and ease to all who seek his services. Surely this noble creature—although a brute in the order of nature's work—is next to man, deserving of the highest consideration. And yet, although we all know this truism, what does that willing slave receive in return for all these benefits to mankind? It would be unpleasant for me to commemorate all the untold which passion, avarice and modest hope upon him, but my present purpose is to ask your attention, while I recount a few of those crimes your fellow-citizens believe it is in your power to alleviate, if not entirely prevent. First, their course overloading. I have counted on one of the lines of this City one hundred persons upon a car, while the snow was eight or ten inches deep; and have often seen your Fourth-avenue cars, which are the same size, equally crowded, leaving it to be inferred that they contained a like number of passengers. Now, the car weighs about 6,000 pounds, and, estimating the passengers at 150 pounds each, we have a total of 15,000 pounds. Good started, even a greater weight may be drawn; but, with an ever-varying surface, and many severe grades, I submit this is a cruel load for any two horses, but particularly those of the weight and stature employed by you. Distance and prolonged labor come next, and your routes is three miles each way, making eighteen miles per day, a distance and a strain which to a dreadful cruelty to inflict, and exceeding by eight miles the established rate known in other countries. Thirdly, food, under these and all circumstances, is of vital importance, and yet that which is provided your horses, and which is nearly similar to that of other public stables, is usually inadequate to the requirements of the animals, under such tremendous exertion. Maize oats and hay of the best quality are absolutely imperative, instead of the chopped and offensive swill about which is given them. Ample bedding, after those strenuous and prolonged labors is too manifestly necessary to need more than a passing allusion. You are, perhaps, not aware that another odious feature lasting in your stables, this one is very importantly provided. These, along with bad shoeing, form the principal abuses against your toiling dependants; and would you but insure orders for their immediate and total reform. I venture to affirm that enhanced profits, and a more profound approval of consciences, would ensue; for the constant facetious exhibitions of brute suffering, to which I refer, shock the comfortable of our citizens, and their suppression would not fail to be as gratifying to you as to them. It is but just to add that the treatment which your horses receive is by no means exceptional, but applies—with rare exceptions, the fault attaches equally to all the railroad and omnibus lines here and in our vicinity. I have enjoyed your acquaintance since my boyhood, and I indulge the belief that you will attribute no other purpose to me than that which I profess and feel, when I have made and am making many personal sacrifices in my efforts to alleviate the miseries of those humble creatures confided by heaven to the care and compassion of mankind.

Yours, HENRY BERGH, President.

The Vanderbilt Railway.

The Executive Committee of the New-York Vanderbilt Railway Company report that they have examined the most important projects for rapid transit through the City. They are in favor of an elevated road wherever it can be built, as it will combine more advantages and offer fewer difficulties than any other plan. They think, however, that the undulating grades of the Island will necessitate portions of the road partly open cut, and partly tunnel. The road should, in their opinion, start with a double track from the upper part of the Island, pass down one side of the City, turn at or near the Battery, and return up the other side. Streets or avenues should only be resorted to when the cost of land is found to be excessive. The City should not be called on to subscribe until the amounts pledged bona fide by others shall be sufficient, with the City's subscription, to build the road. If possible to dispense with the aid, the City should not be called on at all.

The Shepherd's Fold.

Among the charitable institutions in this City is that of the "Shepherd's Fold," an institution for the care of neglected and destitute children, ranging from the age of one and a half to fourteen years. There are now in the institution between sixty and seventy children, under the direct supervision of a board of Christian ladies. On Thursday afternoon, Dec. 28, at 4 o'clock, there will be a Christmas festival and tree in the hall of the East Side Association, at which each child will receive a present. For the evening, Mr. DE CORDOVA will deliver his humorous and humane lecture, "The Sprats at Saratoga," for the benefit of the "Fold."

Whereabouts of Tweed and Sweeny.

TWEED, yesterday, it is stated, after seeing his headstone, and requesting his counsel not to disturb him until he was wanted, left for some place in Connecticut—supposed to be Greenwich, the head-quarters of the American Club, whose pleasures are now interfered with by importunate creditors. This statement, though given on respectable authority, was contradicted last evening by one of his friends, who said that he had not left the City, but passed the day at his magnificent mansion in Fifth-avenue. PETER B. SWEENY has not returned to the City, but is still in St. Catharine's, Canada, according to reliable report.

The Grand Duke in Buffalo.

BUFFALO, Dec. 25.—The Grand Duke drove out today and made a tour of the entire city. He visited Fort Porter in the afternoon and received an appropriate salute. He expressed himself highly pleased with the city and its magnificent private residences. To-night he accepted an invitation of the proprietors of the Academy of Music to attend PARERA-ROSA'S opera of "Martha." The private box is gorgeously fitted up for the occasion.

The weather today is as mild as Spring, not a vestige of the late deep snow is to be seen anywhere.

Incendiary Fire at Hudson, N. Y.

HUDSON, N. Y., Dec. 25.—The old engine house and machine-shop on the Boston and Albany Railroad, located at the dock in this city, was destroyed by fire this evening. The loss on the building is about $3,000. A quantity of hay belonging to Messrs. CLARK & HAVEMEYER was stored in the building and was also destroyed; loss about $1,000. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

AMUSEMENTS.

Theatrical.

"JULIUS CÆSAR" AT BOOTH'S THEATRE.

The last, and in some respects the best, of Mr. EDWIN BOOTH'S Shakespearean revivals, was presented last night at his theatre in the tragedy of "Julius Cæsar." Christmas Night is not usually chosen for the introduction of works of such magnitude, the stock repertory commonly furnishing attraction enough for an evening pretty sure to take care of itself. The policy of concentrating interest by all available means on special occasions has, nevertheless, much to recommend it, and this time was certainly highly successful. That there was an immense house, need scarcely be said—such would be a foregone conclusion. But to this it must be added that the house was warmly and delicately appreciative. In giving exceptional credit to this representation, we would imply, not that it is more sumptuous than others, but that it is more even and harmonious. The labor and minute care shown in the revival have not been expended in vain. Everything brought before the public eye, the grand and complicated scenery, the classic costumes, the banners and weapons, the groupings of the mob, and finally the acting of the chief figures was rigorously scanned and judiciously approved.

The subject of this play is one the interest of which does not die. Some twenty centuries have passed since BRUTUS and his fellows stabbed CÆSAR in the Capitol; yet the problem of Cæsarism is still not solved, or the practice of Cæsarism arrested. True, a Cæsar was tumbled last year from his throne; but straightway, and by the same propulsion, another Cæsar rose to the purple. The imperial diadem fell from the brow of a BONAPARTE, but it was set, almost in the same hour, on that of a HOHENZOLLERN. Despite the march of progress and the wisdom of time, the corruptions of popular Governments still furnish arguments to the foes of liberty, and in modern France the same doubts and fears attend choice between the two great contending principles that embarrassed the patriots of ancient Rome. The same perplexity has harassed able thinkers at every epoch; and "Julius Cæsar," itself, perhaps more than other of SHAKESPEARE's plays has been the theme of animated debate as regards the drift of its purpose and the propriety of its construction. Of its general historical accuracy there is no question; but there is question touching the truthful drawing of the characters and the real sympathies of the poet on the political theories at issue. It seems to us, for example, impossible for a man who thought, wrote and acted as CÆSAR did to have talked as SHAKESPEARE makes him. The fact that *Cæsar* is made in the tragedy an inferior, almost a subordinate character, is assuredly disappointing; and it surely appears more consistent with artistic symmetry, that the death of *Cæsar* should be the climax and end of the action. The replies to this are, first, that *Brutus* and not *Cæsar* is the true hero of the drama; and, secondly, that not the death of *Cæsar* is the legitimate catastrophe, but the death of the Roman Republic at Philippi. How far these replies are intrinsically well taken, and how far they have been prompted by a desire to construct a plausible defense for the dramatist, we need not here pause to discuss. That the intention of SHAKESPEARE was to avoid attracting interest to *Cæsar*, but rather to fix it on his chief assassins and his most brilliant apologist and avenger is manifest; yet when *Brutus* runs on *Strato's* sword at the end, it is not clear whether the author's prejudices jump with the poetic, or the political justice of such a conclusion; whether SHAKESPEARE felt most for his splendid hero's three-and-thirty gaping wounds, or for the mangled liberties of his country.

Mr. EDWIN BOOTH has attempted, in this revival, the difficult part of *Brutus*. It must be owned that Mr. BOOTH lacks figure and port for the character. *Brutus* is one of our most clearly defined ideals of classic manliness and dignity. He is a Roman—nay, "the noblest Roman of them all." His is a figure cast in the very antique mould—large, massive, calm and evenly balanced. Always acting from principle, never from impulse or passion, his intellect is judicial, while his pride and contempt of petty motives are carried almost to a morbid extreme. Mr. BOOTH's style is hardly so well suited to *Brutus* as to *Cassius*, and in person his better adaptation to the latter is still more obvious. He nevertheless reads *Brutus* with a decorous gravity and steadiness of appreciation that are very commendable; and if he does not fill out our loftiest ideal he never degrades it. His natural bent would, doubtless, have freer scope in *Cassius* for other reasons. *Cassius* is a fiery, scheming man of action; *Brutus* a deep-thinking, self-examining philosopher. If such a comparison may be hazarded, we might say *Cassius* reminds us somewhat of Gen. SHERMAN; *Brutus* of Gen. WASHINGTON. It is conceivable that if the two American leaders had been in the same relative positions as the two Romans, they might have had similar colloquies, similar quarrels and similar reconciliations. Apart from Mr. BOOTH's superior fitness for one part over the other, Mr. BARRETT's *Cassius* deserves intelligent examination. He has made an exceedingly careful study of the part, and squares it with the descriptions of the text, to the best of his means, with scrupulous fidelity. We do not, however, find in either Mr. BOOTH or Mr. BARRETT the exaltation that should, to our judgment, pertain to these majestic personages they depict,—these types of the "Commonwealth of Kings, the men of Rome,"—the august figures whose words swayed States, and even the edge of whose daggers gained for them fame surpassing all that was won by the swords of POMPEY or of ANTONY.

Mr. BOOTH, in the first parts of *Brutus*, falls into the error of substituting a kind of nervous tension for equanimity. Where he should be fixed as the centre, self-poised as the sun, he is anxious, palpably over-solicitous for the thoughts and deeds of others. *Brutus* is a nature to lead not follow, to impress and not to be impressed. This idea Mr. BOOTH hardly conveys. In other respects his conception is imaginative, and sometimes even masterly. What is mainly lacking in it is a certain erect majesty, as distinguished from crouching suspicion, and the honorable self-sufficiency of a character noble, pure and patriotic in the highest sense possible to humanity. Mr. BARRETT, again, while he evinces great plasticity and strength in *Cassius*, mouths too much in the part. He thinks too much, relatively speaking, of his voice, and too little of the words it conveys. His performance is, for all this, so earnest, so full of true dramatic spirit, and so elaborately finished, that it deserves on these points to be spoken of with warm praise. Mr. BANGS makes a showy and dashing *Mark Antony*. He was somewhat hoarse last night, but produced, notwithstanding, an excellent effect. His action is graceful and his appearance generally characteristic and prepossessing. The little allotted to the two ladies of the tragedy, *Portia* and *Calpurnia*—whom SHAKESPEARE drags in with unusual clumsiness, to avoid having no women in his play—is satisfactorily done by Miss PATEMAN and Miss SELDEN; and the "make-up" of the latter is especially and classically appropriate.

The conventional *Cæsar*, if not the veritable *Julius*, finds fitting embodiment in Mr. WALLER. Of course we can never see on the stage a *Cæsar* such as the monumental marble shows us the original to have been. Still a certain majesty of demeanor and old-fashioned cut of face and figure seem to mark, as we have said, the conventional notion of a *Cæsar*—and these Mr. WALLER has. Beyond this, he delivers his lines with just self-possession and grace, and dies as becomingly as he lives. Mr. JAMES STARK, an excellent artist, once well known here, and since a leading tragedian of the California theatres, appeared last evening as *Casca*. Mr. STARK was cordially received, and played *Casca* with a rugged constancy that was well relished by his audience. We feel bound to say that the direction of the stage in *Julius Cæsar* has been capital. The groupings of the mob, the action that has been taught to its members to accompany and succeed the more stirring incidents, is in wonderful contrast with what is usually seen [illegible] the most difficult things to manage. All the grand pictures are finely managed, and the assassination scene at the foot of Pompey's statue, taken altogether, is an honor to the American stage.

It is gratifying to see so instructive a play as "Julius Cæsar" so admirably set before the public. There may be ambiguity on the whole, as we have suggested, in the political doctrines inculcated, but there is none in the gems of wisdom, the pure gold of philosophy, the keen perception of human nature, with which the text is so plentifully adorned. Hardly any play of SHAKESPEARE's, "Hamlet" excepted, contains so much condensed thought, of pithy and sententious axiom. Familiar quotations strike the ear constantly in listening to the tragedy, and they are almost always of the sort that we feel it is profitable to remember. For this reason, although the mere dramatic interest of the plot flags somewhat after *Cæsar's* fall, another interest of no inferior kind is kept up till the last; and whatever the ultimate moral of their conduct, we regret, with a pang greater than that caused by the slaying of their victim, the predicted expiation in the deaths of *Brutus* and *Cassius* on the red field of Philippi. "Julius Cæsar" is both a solid and a brilliant addition to the list of Mr. BOOTH's histrionic triumphs, as mounted at his beautiful theatre, and we heartily wish the tragedy a long and profitable career.

Musical.

THE SEASON OF ITALIAN OPERA.

To-night the last performance but two of the season of Italian opera, occurs at the Academy of Music. "Il Trovatore" will be sung, with Misses NILSSON and CARY, and Signori BRIGNOLI and BARTOLINI in the principal parts.

HERR WACHTEL AT THE GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.

Herr WACHTEL's performance at the Grand Opera-house, yesterday afternoon, attracted and delighted a very large audience. The opera was "The Postillion of Lonjumeau." Its recital by Herren WACHTEL, FRANCOSCH and VIERLING has had frequent notice in these columns. The wonted effect was produced by the latest representation. The matchless beauty of the tenor's voice, the gentleman's capital delivery, and his spirited acting awakened an admiration quite justificatory of the enthusiasm which was shown during the progress of the first scene between *Chapelou* and *Madeleine*, and which accompanied Herr WACHTEL's efforts until the close of the entertainment. The famed rondo was thrice rendered. We must not omit to mention that the rôle of *Madeleine* was filled for the first time this season by Mlle. PAULINE CANNISSA, whose talent as a vocalist and a comedienne had abundant appreciation. To-night, Herr WACHTEL and the same artists sing in Brooklyn. Wednesday they go to Philadelphia, where they will be heard on Dec. 29. Announcements are also at hand of performances in Washington, commencing on Jan. 8; in Baltimore, commencing on Jan. 22; in Pittsburg, commencing on Jan. 29; and in Cincinnati, commencing Feb. 5. On April 1, Mme. PAREPA-ROSA and Herr WACHTEL, with a strong company, are to begin a series of twelve nights of Italian opera at the Academy of Music.

ORATORIO AT STEINWAY HALL.

A very numerous assemblage attended the oratorio performance at Steinway Hall last evening. The recital was of that uneven character to the seeming unavoidableness of which we have so often alluded. Passages of "The Messiah," which was the work interpreted yesterday, were satisfying and impressive, and portions of HANDEL's noble composition had only scant justice done them. It need hardly be said that Miss CLARA LOUISE KELLOGG sang with undeviating accuracy of intonation and tastefulness of phrasing, and that all the pieces assigned to her were executed with exceeding finish of style. Nor will it be doubted that the superb contralto and broad delivery of Miss ANTOINETTE STERLING were effective in no ordinary degree, and that they secured a very fair division of the honors. But Mr. REMMERTZ, though a gifted and accomplished singer, has not the fluent vocalization required to cope successfully with the recollection of Mr. SANTLEY; and Mr. H. R. ROMEYN, partially, perhaps, by reason of nervousness, was utterly inadequate to his share of the task. The chorus, though not very strong in numbers, was reasonably proficient; the orchestra was small, occasionally deficient in unanimity, and always devoid of tone. We shall never, we fear, enjoy a faultless rendering of oratorio in New-York. If local societies failed to supply the desideratum when the co-operation of soloists of the rank of Mr. DOLBY's artists was had, what can be looked for in the future?

The Gas Troubles—A Full Supply Promised for To-Night.

Last evening the denizens of the upper part of the City were blessed again with gas, although the quality was not sufficient to give a brilliant light. The gas-lamps in the streets and avenues in the Metropolitan Gas-works district were lighted at an early hour, although in most cases they did not continue to burn long. In Eleventh, Tenth, Ninth and Eighth avenues there was a fair display of light, while in the other avenues, especially in the Fifth and Third, there were few lights above Forty-fifth-street. In the majority of the cross streets above Fiftieth-street there were very few lights, while below Fiftieth-street, although the lamps in the adjacent portions of the avenues were out, the lamps were giving quite a good light. Various reasons were given for this odd dispersion of light, but the most tangible and doubtless the real reason was that at present the pipes are partially filled with air, which, of course, makes it difficult for the gas to circulate. A TIMES reporter visited the works of the Company, last evening, and found 300 men busily engaged in reconstructing the purifiers. On visiting the engine-house he found there was a one-inch pressure on throughout the Company's district, and that the engineer had instructions to keep this weight of pressure on till 11 o'clock, when he was to reduce it to six-tenths of an inch. This is almost 200 per cent below the average night pressure when the works were in working condition. To-day the Harlem Company will connect their main pipes with the Metropolitan, and they have guaranteed to supply 350,000 cubic feet of gas for to-night's consumption, while the Metropolitan Company themselves estimate that they will be able to make 1,110,000 cubic feet during the next twenty-four hours, so that between the two Companies there will be at least 1,060,000 cubic feet of gas ready for consumption this evening. The Company is indignantly blamed for the alleged carelessness of their workmen. Some propose to sue the Company for damages, while others, who are less violent and perhaps more practical, propose burning kerosene and candles for the future.

Successful Robbery in Bridgeport, Conn.—A Woman Appointed Light-House Keeper.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Monday, Dec. 25, 1871.

The hat and cap store of HORACE HATCH, No. 91 Water-street, was robbed on Saturday evening of the contents of the money-drawer, amounting to about one hundred dollars. Two boot-blacks, who were recognized by the clerk as having been in the store a short time before, were arrested by the Police. This is the third successful robbery of the kind that has been perpetrated in Bridgeport during the present year.

The office of light-keeper at Black Rock, Conn., recently vacant by the death of the venerable Capt. S. T. MOORE, has been filled by the Light-house Board, in accordance with the recommendation of Collector NORTHROP, by the appointment of Miss MOORE, daughter of the previous incumbent. Miss MOORE had fairly earned the office, having discharged its duties with fidelity for more than fifteen years past. Her father, who was aged ninety-eight years, was one of the oldest Federal office-holders in the country, having been appointed by President MADISON in 1818.

Assault with a Carving-Knife.

JOSEPH PARKER and THOMAS CARNEY, the latter residing at No. 3[illegible] West Fortieth-street, are waiters at CLARKE & WILLARD's, No. [illegible] Broadway. PARKER, who is a young fellow nineteen years old, never tasted liquor in his life until yesterday, when a friend whom he met induced him to take a glass of whisky. Coming in shortly afterward, he had a quarrel with CARNEY, and seizing a huge carving-knife, struck him on the head with it, inflicting severe injuries. PARKER was locked up last night in the Mercer-street Station-house.

PAVEMENTS.

Wood and Stone Contrasted—Progress in Europe, India and South America—What is Needed in New-York.

Well-paved streets and good roads are indispensable necessaries for cities. It is surprising how partially perfection in either is attained in the most advanced seats of modern civilization. Economy in traffic renders it a *sine qua non* that streets should be kept in repair, reasonably smooth, well-drained, that the surface may not wear too fast by the constant attrition of heavy-wheeled vehicles, that carriage springs shall not be habitually smashed by sudden plunges into yawning ruts, or horses lamed by ill-laid faults, or the residents or busy workers in the human hives they penetrate deafened with a perpetual roar of rolling hard substances in frictional movement. A well-laid street, too, favors cleanliness, and appearance is something. Magnificent buildings, with a cobble-stone track between, strewed with rarely-disturbed garbage, a torrent in rainy weather, a Sahara of dust when it is hot, and a quagmire when Winter snows slowly thaw, is painfully suggestive of decayed Italian palaces, with hovels as supporters, or Belgravian mansions with mews, low pot-houses and squalid tenements in the immediate rear. That good communications promote civilization is a truism. The march of intellect follows the track roughhewn by the pioneer, and the school-master goes abroad on the beaten road which follows. The Romans set a very good example—many of their roads are used now, repaired, but of the ancient character, others traversing spaces now perhaps built over, or pastures for sheep and cattle, still maintain a firmness that invokes involuntary respect for those sturdy propagators of law and order. America can proudly boast that the example is nowhere better followed, in the main, than here. The roads which cobweb the continent may not all be boulevards, but they fulfill a purpose, and are improved as occasion requires. An American railroad engineer is now under heavy pay in India to teach the solid-last-for-a-thousand-years-road plotting British engineers how to open up a country cheaply; how to make improvements from the profits of the first venture, and not starve the horse while waiting for grass to grow into hay. Americans may also learn something in this respect from the cheap, narrow-gauge lines tried and found eminently economical and practically useful in Wales, and now introduced and fast gaining favor in Russia, Brazil, and British India.

But this is traveling from the main point, the state of roads and streets for pedestrians and vehicles. In the latter end of the last and the early days of this century, roads were uniformly bad. Paris, supposed to be the best paved city in the world, delighted in cobble-stone metalling and *trottoirs* of the same on a few of the best streets, the perpetual balancing on which on tiptoe is popularly supposed to have originated the peculiar development of limb for which the lovely dames of beautiful France are justly celebrated. MACADAM then arose like a prophet and instituted the era of roads made and repaired with broken stones crushed together by the carriages rolling over them, at the expense of the carriages and occasional detriment to the cattle. This plan formed a fine, smooth road, not noisy, drying easily, rain soaking into it off the surface and not wearing it away into miniature torrents with rugged bowlders upheaving monstrous forms, as a heavy storm would transform the cobble-stone arrangement of the period, and not dusty, if well watered. Easily repaired—furnishing light labor to keep paupers out of mischief, and requiring perpetual watchfulness from some not overworked inspectors, rewarded for their labors under vestrymen, a class of old-country unpaid but not unperquisited dignitaries, well described (of course) by DICKENS, and analogous, according to their lights, to the Ward politicians of New-York, these roads have long enjoyed the favor of the people. Their merits soon transplanted the idea from the land of macadam to other countries. Perhaps the best specimen of a macadamized road in the world is the high road from Pennsylvania, passing through Frederic City, Md., to the gaps in the Blue Ridge. In America, with abundant timber, scarce labor, at least cheap labor, and taking but little trouble, corduroy roads of round and split logs, followed in legitimate order by the more ambitious plank-road, have long made morasses passable, penetrated forests, and connected distant townships, that in Europe, under the ancient country-road system—dirt unimproved—might have been sundered for weeks together many times during each year.

In India, the laterite or stony clay, of a cheese-like consistence, largely impregnated with iron, hardening to granite strength by exposure to the air, is largely employed, and in wet weather, or if kept watered, is as smooth as a billiard table, pleasant to drive on. But with dry weather and no water—water being a pearl beyond price in the thirsty East, hoarded in tanks for cultivation, jealously dispensed—these laterite roads powder down as if violently agitated on nutmeg-graters. The disintegrated dust, impalpable and omnipresent, fills the air, invades everything, while gullies and ruts and yawning holes and cracks mysteriously appear everywhere, not to be mended, or the mending thought of, till after some rain. To this an inventor has applied a remedy which will be detailed below in its place, one that seems to solve the difficulty of proper footing for both city and country. All these roads, of which the macadamized are undoubtedly the best, and to some extent improved by the French by the employment of huge steam-rollers to crush the stones into a homogeneous mass, so sparing horses and wheeltires, have necessarily failed to encounter the wear and tear of advancing traffic which each year swells the bustle and the bank-books of flourishing cities in this second moiety of the nineteenth century. Stone, of course, was the first thing thought of: cobble-stones had been tried and were manifestly inferior, so partially squared ashlars were adopted, such as we see on Broadway, but this, though good, still falls far short of perfection, "unequal expansion," or landslips, or prosaic differences of level, with the action of water above and below, leave all such pavements sooner or later in an undulating condition, fatal to the nerves of those jolted over them, inviting puddles of mire, the individual stones yawning apart from each other as time goes on, then one by one kicked out by horses, and so on, till, without looking to, the famous squared-ashlar street becomes a melancholy ruin. Then mechanically fitting stones have been tried, hexagonal or otherwise, deep stones and flat stones, under a variety of names, but though some at first looked better and were smoother than the Broadway pavement, most were very expensive, and the results hardly justify the enormous extra expenditure. There is probably no handsomer pavement in the City than the Nicolson, as it appears when newly laid down, or rather a few months after when well settled, but it seems to go to the bad as soon as the old-fashioned square plan, and costs a very great deal more to keep in repair. No one who saw Broad-street for the first time in Winter could imagine that slough of despond to have been one of the most elaborately paved streets in the City. Its unattended-to defects are visible enough now. All stone pavements, too, have this great disadvantage, they cause such an awful noise, distracting to those not used to it, murderous to invalids who cannot get away from it, injurious—though perhaps the perpetual trivial fretting may escape observation—to those most inured to it.

Wooden pavements have also been taken up of cubes, double cubes, prisms, or slabs, and in certain quiet localities seem to meet all objections. The noise is small, they last well, drain well, if well graded, are smooth; but they will not do for heavy traffic. They will, under heavy pressure and the ill-mannered hoofs of slouching dray-horses, splinter, get into holes, accumulate unwashable dirt and stagnant water, rot, be odoriferous, and generally troublesome. Moreover, all wooden roads are slippery, a serious thing in climates where Winter is so lasting and severe as here, and they do not dry rapidly. Asphalte and sundry comforts of that and other substances, first attracting attention in France, have gained slowly but surely a footing everywhere. Should a perfect mixture be discovered, which would retain all the virtues and none of the vices of the various half-failures which have as yet struggled for existence, it would undoubtedly be hailed with unfeigned delight. These asphalte pavements are smooth, can be graded and beveled off like boiler-iron or the molding under a plasterer's trowel, throw off rain or moisture like India-rubber coats, are very clean, can be washed down with a hose and a broom like a china plate, are not noisy, and don't crack. But most, if not all, are apt to soften under a Summer sun, stick to peripatetic boots, retaining the impression of them, will take if slowly yet certainly stereotyped ruts from the vehicles passing over them, and in some cases the frayed edges of these little ruts get knocked about and broken off, turn into dust and choke the wayfarer with dust of old acquaintance, combined with a flavor of coal-tar, a quite unsolicited addendum to the old adage that "every man must eat his peck of dirt before he dies." The people in Henry-street, Brooklyn, have been terribly exercised about their beautiful pavement, which, by the way, proved a famous circus maximus (only it was straight) in sleighing time, and go so far as to say that its Belgic fractions are injurious to health. They also say that from not absorbing the water, that the trees on the curbs droop and wither away. This of itself would be a great objection. The beautiful shade-trees in the streets, as a rule, not an exception, are a peculiarly American feature which we seek in vain in Europe. There, some few streets, in most cities, may boast of such adornments, but whether from disinclination to veil the architectural beauties of their public buildings, and façades of monotonous dwelling-houses and stores, alike for miles, or whether trees won't grow in smoke, the instances of nature's aid to man's attempts to adorn her are comparatively non-existent. The Guidet patent claims to be something like perfection. It seems to answer well down at the Battery, and Gen. AVERILL, with a large staff of skilled workmen, is about to introduce it on contract at Baltimore, New-Orleans, Baton Rouge, and other Southern centres. The plan alluded to above is the invention of a civil engineer now in India, who, after the manner of his kind, having to build court-houses and bridges, and bake the bricks for them, is given to experimenting. He has succeeded in manufacturing what he calls "brick earth"—clay mixed with laterite, baked and rebaked till it is hard as iron, porous as fine sponge, and so not killing trees from want of water to feed them by capillary attraction of their roots, and molded like bricks or rather flat tiles, in fact, rather like very much burnt tiles, unglazed, and with evident holes like household bread. With these he claims to be able to metal a road to last as long as primeval rock of equal thickness, without further looking to, to dry immediately, to let water through, and not depend entirely on side drains (as asphalte must) to be almost noiseless, smooth, easy, handsome, at a cost of nine cents a cubic yard, and he has tried it on a quarter of a mile of road in front of his forest dwelling with absolute success. It is "under consideration of Government," *i. e.*, pigeon-holed for an indefinite time. The idea, however, is sound. It seems somewhat strange that the flags on the sidewalks should be so fearfully cracked. In the best streets large and handsome flags are disfigured by great cracks, and in business streets, as between Wall-street and the East River, or the back "slums," the cracks—where the flags are still in existence, for they seem to vanish with remarkable rapidity—seem like the cross-hatching of some eccentric caricaturist with "a bee in his bonnet." Possibly the severe frosts in Winter cause this, or the blows of policemen's batons, or perhaps they have originally been laid too thin or too carelessly, and so, balanced on a fulcrum, or unable to bear the pressure daily brought to bear on them, they crash. Anyhow, it is unpleasant to kick the heels of one's boots off whenever walking, from the sidewalk flags not being level or on the square. The recent success of steam road-engines, a peculiar feature of which is a broad, thick India-rubber casing to the wheel-tires, suggests the idea that were such applied to all our vehicles, it would be giving the roads a chance they have never had, and improving them as well as the carriages, for which they are requisite, we might, by making each go half way to suit the other, attain travel without the fearful noise, rattling and jolting to which we are nowadays too much condemned.

NOTES FROM THE PEOPLE.

Not Victimized.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Our attention having been called to an article in your paper of last Saturday, headed, "Look Out for a Swindler," in which you state our firm has been "*victimized considerably*" by the said JOYCE—we beg to contradict most emphatically that statement, and believe the article to have been inserted from malicious and ulterior views. Our firm has not been victimized by him; nor was our permission asked to insert any such statement, and, so far as our firm is concerned, the article is false and untrue in every particular. Yours, truly,

HENRY H. RICHARDSON & CO.

No. 22 VESEY-STREET, NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 25, 1871.

The Positive Life Assurance Company.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

In a leading article in your issue of Saturday last you reviewed an English company inaugurated under the above title; and in doing so you made some statements which would lead the public to believe that the policies in all other life assurance companies are the very reverse of "positive." However true this may be with reference to some companies, it is contrary to fact with regard to a great many. It is not often that the daily Press touches the subject of life assurance, and if the daily Press were thoroughly posted it would be of great value in correcting abuses where they exist. All life insurance polices ought to be practically positive, and in many companies they were made so long ago. Take for example the Equitable Life Assurance Company of London. It has been in operation 108 years, and has paid in death claims, bonuses and surrenders close upon $[illegible],000,000, and in the course of its whole experience it has only disputed two claims, and these were proved to be cases of fraud. There are many old English companies which can show a similar record in this particular. There is no doubt that the great Prof. DE MORGAN had these in his mind when he gave the following statement to the world, with all the weight of his great name—viz: "There is nothing in the commercial world approaches even remotely to the security of a well-established and prudently-managed life insurance company." Such companies as the Equitable, Scottish Widows' Fund, and Standard have stated definitely the minimum amount of surrender values they would give for a policy any time after the first payment has been made. This surrender value varies from thirty to 140 per cent. of the premiums paid, according to the length of time the policy has been in force, so that in these companies the insured knows exactly what he is doing when he insures. I mention this because your article implies that this new English company is the first to introduce it, whereas the companies above named have been publishing this fact to the whole civilized world for years.

I see none of the prominent American companies bind themselves to give a fixed surrender value; but they issue what are called non-forfeitable policies, on which a limited number of payments has to be made. For example, take the ten years' non-forfeitable life policy under which each payment secures absolutely one-tenth of the sum assured payable at the death of the policy-holder. In order to make this policy equally as positive as that proposed to be issued by the Positive Assurance Company, all that has to be done is to add the simple condition that should the assured wish at any time to surrender his policy to the Company, he could have in exchange for it forty per cent. of the premiums paid; and the sooner such a provision is added the better for the companies' interests. In the new scheme the issue of notes instead of policies is the most objectionable part, there being no security that the notes will not fall into bad hands. In other respects the scheme is by no means new in England, but only giving a new name to one of the principal features of every properly-conducted life assurance society. In the short space you would be able to devote to my letter, I could not discuss the matter in detail, but what I have said is sufficient to show that there are many companies whose policies are as positive as the Positive Life Assurance Society is able to make them.

JOHN BOOTH,
No. 120 Broadway, New-York.

Suffering at Sea.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—A special telegram from Newburyport says that a vessel flying a signal of distress was seen off Plum Island at daylight this morning. Three pilots, Messrs. CHASE, THURLOW and STEVENS, went down and found her to be the British schooner *Marysville*, Capt. WILLIAMS, of St. John, with lumber loaded for JEWETT & PITCHER, of Boston. The vessel leaked badly, and Wednesday night became unmanageable from being waterlogged, and during the time since until this morning, the Captain and crew have had no fire and nothing to eat, and when they were rescued by the pilots they were nearly exhausted. Their sufferings from the cold have been terrible, and as they were conveyed to the house of the light-keeper on Plum Island they presented a very sad sight. Their faces, hands and feet are dreadfully frozen, and it is feared some of them will have to submit to amputation.

The Trap-Gun Tragedy in Newark.

Coroner VREELAND, of Newark, held an inquest yesterday afternoon upon the body of WILLIAM HEALY, the notorious burglar who was shot by a "trap-gun" in the manufactory of Mr. GEORGE PARKER, in River-street, on Sunday. The evidence given showed that the gun was of the "blunderbuss" pattern—an old musket cut off near the barrel. This weapon was placed at the end of a long table upon which the manufactured stock of the foundry was stored, its muzzle pointing along the side of the table. A string was attached to the trigger, and running over a pulley, extended along the edge of the table. The burglar, on standing at the table, disturbed the string and discharged the load into his body. The jury, after hearing all the evidence, exonerated Mr. PARKER from all blame.

FOREIGN NOTES.

M. GODARD, the aeronaut, had just made an ascent at Toulouse in his new gigantic balloon the "Union des Peuples." Ten persons were with him in the car.

A new dock which has been constructed at Havre, on the site of the old citadel, has just been inaugurated in presence of a large number of persons.

M. ERNEST RENAN opened his course of lectures on the Semitic languages at the College of France on Dec. 4, and was very warmly received by a numerous auditory.

Among the convicts who had arrived at the bagne of Toulon, were two ex-police agents, named GIRAUD and BERTHON, condemned, the one for life, and the other for ten years, on charges of making arbitrary arrests during the Commune.

A Franc-tireur was executed at Lille on Dec. 5 by sentence of a Court-martial. This man had betrayed his battalion into a German ambuscade, and denounced his native village, Thin-le-Moustiers, (Ardennes,) to the Germans, who burnt down every house in it but his own.

The sums spent on the construction of the New Opera, in Paris, up to the present time, including this year's grant, amount to 36,000,000 francs, 5,800,000 francs being still required to complete it. The building, commenced in 1861, was to have been inaugurated in 1870, but when it will be completed it is impossible to say, and depends entirely on the funds allowed to the contractor.

The affair KERATRY-PIETRI, at Toulouse, had been concluded, after two days' proceedings, by a judgment completely placing the Count aside, and ordering the State, which admits having received 4,500 francs found at the Prefecture of Police, to reimburse that sum to the other litigant. As to the various objects originally claimed, M. PIETRI's counsel made no fresh demand, Count DE KERATRY having shown that he had restored them.

A Communist named CHAPEL has just been arrested in Paris, disguised as a Turk, and selling pastilles in the streets. He was taken, followed by a crowd of idlers, to the nearest police office, and he there admitted the part which he had taken in the insurrection, and declared that he was ready to join in the new outbreak that was to take place shortly. This man was formerly proprietor of a traveling circus, and has undergone two years' imprisonment for swindling.

"M. PAUL DALLOZ signed, on Dec. 5," says the *Paris-Journal*, "the treaty with the Government by which he is appointed director of the *Journal Officiel* in the place of M. WITTERSHEIM. The reason assigned for breaking with the latter is the non-execution of his engagements. That gentleman, to whom M. MARINONI some time since ceded his interest, is said to have commenced legal proceedings against the Government, from whom he claims an indemnity of 5,000,000 francs, while the Ministry offers only 50,000. On the other side, the shareholders intend to bring an action against M. WITTERSHEIM. As a consequence of these changes, the official organ will shortly appear in its original shape."

The Russian St. Petersburg *Gazette* furnishes some interesting statistics as to the revenues of the most important monasteries in Russia, adding, however, that these cannot be thoroughly relied upon, as they proceed from private sources. The receipts of the priors of the monasteries of the first-class (lavras) vary, it says, from 40,000 to 60,000 roubles, ($25,000 to $37,500,) and of the other priors from 1,000 to 10,000 roubles. The income of the monastery of Troitski-Sergiev, near Moscow, which formerly contained about 100,000 persons, now amounts to 800,000 roubles. That of the Kief monastery is even greater, as it derives a considerable profit from the sale of wax-lights. The Alexander-Nevski monastery at St. Petersburg has a special source of revenue, besides its ordinary one, in the shape of a share of all the corn imported into the capital. How large this revenue is may be inferred from the fact that a short time ago the city wished to compound for it by a yearly payment of 1,000,000 roubles, and that the monastery declined the offer. Next to the monasteries of the first-class the largest revenue possessed by a monastery in Russia is that of the Iversk Chapel in Moscow, (a branch of the Perervinsk monastery,) whose yearly receipts are calculated on an average at 100,000 roubles. In the ecclesiastical district of Novgorod the wealthiest monastery is that of Yuriev, whose bare capital alone is said to amount to 740,321 roubles.

CUBA.

A Doubtful Story About the Proposed Purchase of the Island by a Citizen of the United States.

HAVANA, Cuba, Dec. 16, 1871.

To the Editor of the Boston Post:

SENOR: The journals in the United States—and we feel here how blessed it is to be united—have published very full and accurate accounts of the massacre of the eight innocent little boys in this city, and many have also published items concerning two hundred citizens sent as prisoners to the Isle of Pines without a charge being made or recorded against them. It seems that Col. I. B. STOCKTON, an American gentleman, had made a proposition to purchase the island of Cuba upon his own account from the King and Cabinet of Spain, for the sum of $100,000,000 in gold, and that a long correspondence followed, among which were autograph letters from King AMADEUS and his Privy Councillor Señor RUIZ ZORILLA, both of whom were extremely anxious for the sale, if the American purchasers would allow them to remove all arms, ammunition, ordnance, ships, &c., &c. But in STOCKTON's proposition, the main points of which were translated into Spanish, he had distinctly stipulated that the Spanish Government should have thirty days in which to remove their soldiers and sailors, but that all ships, ordnance, guns, ammunition, and public property of every description should be turned over to his agents. It was further stipulated that private property, both real and personal, should be respected and protected in the ownership recognized upon the day of transfer, and that all Spaniards upon the island, or elsewhere, should be allowed to carry on business, reside upon, or to go and come upon the island, as they might elect, and to enjoy the same rights and the same protection as any other nationality. It appears, also, that STOCKTON had made it a condition precedent that all correspondence should be strictly private and confidential, and that neither Mr. FISH nor yet Gen. SICKLES should in any manner get wind of it. In one of his letters King AMADEUS says that before the final transfer of the island to a private individual, he will require Col. STOCKTON to obtain the consent of his own Government to permit him to make the purchase. And in a note to Count VALMASEDA inquires what probability there is of carrying the measure if submitted to a popular vote of the people. It appears that your countryman (STOCKTON) is a diplomat of the first water, and in anticipation of such a result had sent his secret emissaries to Havana, and had as noiselessly and secretly obtained the co-operation of seven gentlemen occupying very high official and social standing in the island; and these gentlemen were working very quietly and cunningly, and without even a suspicion from Count VALMASEDA and his "shadows." A man now comes from the States, and violating the sacred confidence placed in him—Spanish gold seems very tempting to an American—informs VALMASEDA—when watchers and decoys are used, and seven persons found, and in order to nip the entire affair in the bud and prevent the spread of any such idea upon the island, orders were given for the instant arrest of all the associates and intimate acquaintances of these seven men, and thereupon 200 innocent persons were arrested, confined and imprisoned for life without a trial, without even a charge being made against them, and without an intimation of their crime being made known to themselves or any one else. Can perfidy sink lower? Some of them are Americans, some British and some Mexican citizens. Count VALMASEDA, the Captain-General, is very bitterly opposed to this sale of the Island of Cuba, as with its transfer his importance as a public man would forever cease. He has taken this summary and high-handed manner to stop any spread of the heresy, though it is very possible that these seven men had not made known to a single individual their desire for the sale. There are but three individuals in Cuba to-day, including the Captain-General and your correspondent, who know anything of this correspondence! Even LOPEZ ROBERTS, Gobierno Politico de la Habana, knows nothing of it; although he is considered sound as a butcher Spaniard, he is quite unsafe as a depository. The writer would not dare publish it and remain upon the island, did he not know that the two persons in whose charge the official papers are do not know and cannot tell how the substance of the negotiation leaked out. In the position I occupy here I cannot write so freely and fully as I desire, but what I have stated are facts, and are enough to show you how weak and imbecile the present rulers of the United States appear in the eyes of the civilized world, standing mute and dumb, with folded arms, while the Spanish King and Government are, contrary to all international comity and law, attempting to barter and trade away the key to the Gulf of Mexico to mere private individuals. It seems to those of us who do not belong to your Government to be supremely humiliating. But while your President retains such an antiquated specimen of fossil, FISH, as your Press and his own actions show him to be at the head of the State Department, the present moment, which is pregnant with opportunity for the United States to acquire Cuba, and that, too, honorably and justly, must, unimproved, pass away forever. From the tone of your journals there seems to be no doubt that a large majority of the people of the United States are anxious for the annexation of Cuba. Will not the Presidential candidate who shall inscribe upon his banner "The annexation of Cuba during the first year of my Administration" sound the key-note to success? Our hearts warm toward the United States now as they never did before for annexation or the protection of her flag. Why does she spurn us still? Why inflict the torture of a thousand deaths upon us by her chilling apathy?

A Deadly Assault.

JOSEPH PARKER and THOMAS KARNEY, waiters in the saloon No. [illegible] Broadway, became engaged in an affray last night, during which PARKER struck KARNEY on the head with a knife, inflicting a severe wound. The assailant was arrested and locked up in the Fifteenth Precinct Station-house.

The Treasure of the San Pedro—Further Accounts from the Expedition.

From the Norwich (Conn.) Bulletin, Dec. 23.

From a letter from GEORGE W. FULLER, Superintendent of the American Submarine Company, to a gentleman in this city, we gather the following account of the work on the wreck of the old frigate in Cumana Bay, subsequent to his arrival.

"Mr. FULLER reached the wrecking brig *Nellie Gay* on Sunday, Nov. 5 last. He found the work in a prosperous condition, about $3,300 in silver coin having been recovered by the dredging apparatus from the sand near the stern of the vessel, and her hull prepared for exploration. He continued the search for loose dollars with the sand pump, an invention of his own, and with that and the dredge secured about $300 more within a week; the pump in seventy feet of water throwing up dollars, bullets, pieces of brass, &c., some of them weighing over six ounces. At the date of his letter the exploration of the wreck had been in progress three days, and the divers were digging near the forward hatch, through a mass of timbers, cannon, muskets, shot, shell, cordage, &c., from six to eight feet deep. At some distance below this surface a board was found with a rouleau of silver dollars corroded together and fastened to its under side, as if to the cover of a box. This strengthens the belief that the treasure is below the *débris* as it was first packed. Six weeks, however, will remove all uncertainty, as in that time the bulk will have been thoroughly searched.

"The climate is a genial one, but as north-east winds prevail, it is extremely damp. With the thermometer never higher than 88°, or lower than 77°, everything becomes saturated with moisture or covered with mold or rust. Yet the water is very poor and so indeed are the fruit and provisions of the country. Fish there are, however, in vast numbers. Mr. FULLER says they are 'the wonder of the place.' They much impede the divers' work, the smaller ones lying in almost a solid body as far as the eye can reach under water, while the larger ones, (not sharks,) sixteen feet long, float in the water like logs, and it is necessary to pass among them 'like cattle in a barn-yard.' Among other of the agreeable institutions of Cumana Bay, Mr. FULLER mentions sharks twenty-five feet in length, and a cheerful native called the devil-fish, nearly square in shape, and measuring twenty feet each way, which has an unpleasant habit of clutching whatever it touches with its flippers, and making off like a young steam-boat. The members of the expedition were all in good health and in excellent spirits."

Fifth Annual Reunion of the Chicago Yale Association.

The fifth annual reunion of the Yale Association of Chicago was held on Friday evening last, about thirty-five members being present. Hon. W. B. LYNDE, of Milwaukee, ex-member of Congress, and Vice-President of the Association, presided, in the absence of Prof. FISKE, who is at present in Europe. The early part of the evening was spent in pleasant social intercourse, after which the company partook of a dinner. The regular toasts were as follows: "Alma Mater," responded to by Commissioner CARTER HARRISON. "New Yale," by Rev. E. C. PORTER, of Racine, Wis. "Phenix," by T. S. NORTON, member of the Chicago Bar. "Last News from Yale," by A. B. MASON. Voluntary toasts were responded to by Messrs. MASON, SHERBURNE, EATON and others.

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HOLIDAY PRESENTS OF AFFECTION AND CHARITY.—"Man's best gift to woman was the sewing machine. A better Holiday present to a wife or a sister, or one nearer and dearer still, than a WHEELER & WILSON Sewing-machine, cannot be devised. Their reputation is too well established to need comment, and the prices are invariably to suit the times. The splendid depot is No. 625 Broadway."—*New-York Daily Times.—Advertisement.*

Marion United States Watch Company's Watches (Giles, Wales & Co.,) were awarded the first premiums, at "Fair of American Institute," New-York, 1870; at Fair of "Ohio Mechanics' Institute," Cincinnati, 1870; at "Louisiana State Fair," New-Orleans, La., 1870; at "Texas State Fair," Houston, Texas, 1871, and at every fair where they have been exhibited, over all competitors.—*Advertisement.*

Luxury, health, economy insured by using DOOLEY's Yeast Powder. Elegant light rolls, biscuits, &c., prepared in ten minutes.—*Advertisement.*

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES.

THE NEW-YORK SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, published THIS MORNING, contains the very latest telegraphic and general news; editorials on matters of current interest; a page of carefully-prepared commercial matter, giving the latest financial news and market reports; items of agricultural and domestic interest, and marriages and deaths of the week and other interesting reading matter.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES may be had at the counter of the Publication Office, in wrappers, ready for mailing. Price FIVE CENTS.

Napoleon's Cabinet
CHAMPAGNE.
THE WINE USED AT THE RECEPTION OF PRINCE ALEXIS,
for sale at the leading wine-merchants' and grocers'.
BOUCHE FILS & CO.,
Sole Agents, No. 37 Beaver-st.

Save Fifteen Dollars.
Buy the celebrated WILSON SHUTTLE SEWING-MACHINE. The best in the world. Price $[illegible]. Sold on easy payments of $5 a month. Warranted for five years. A few good canvassers and agents wanted. Consult and address WILSON SEWING-MACHINE COMPANY, No. [illegible] Broadway, New-York.

Holiday Presents.
[illegible] and Views, Cameras and Frames, Albums, Graphoscopes, &c., &c.
E. & H. T. ANTHONY & CO.,
No. [illegible] Broadway.
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"CASHMERE BOUQUET,"
For the Holidays.

Holiday Presents.
French Embroidered Slippers for ladies and gents, Boots, Shoes and Gaiters, in every variety, selling at popular prices. Also, English manufactured water-proof Boots, for gentlemen's wear, at No. 573 Broadway.
C. C. RICHMOND.

For Chapped Hands, Sore Lips, Rough or dry skin upon the face, use PERRY'S VEGETABLE EMOLLIENT. It is cleanly, agreeable and perfectly efficacious. For children, it is invaluable, keeping their skin soft and smooth in the coldest weather. Prepared only by Dr. B. C. PERRY, Dermatologist, No. 49 Bond-st., New-York.

Batchelor's Hair Dye is the Best in the world—the only safe, true and perfect hair dye. No ridiculous tints—no disappointment—harmless, reliable, instantaneous black or brown. At all druggists and No. 16 Bond-st.

New 7-octave Pianos, $250.—New Organs, $50 to $90. New Melodeons, $50, cash, for the Holidays. HORACE WATERS, No. 481 Broadway.

Mains's Portable Window Ventilator.—Fresh air, no draft; fits any window. Price, $5. Send for circular. UNDERHILL & CO., No. 95 Duane-st.

For a Stylish and Elegant Holiday Hat, go direct to the manufacturer, ESPENSCHIED, No. 118 Nassau-st.

Bargains in Fine Gold Jewelry.
WHOLESALE PRICES.
FINE GOLD BAR-RINGS AND PINS,
ETRUSCAN CAMEO, GARNET, &c.
CORAL BAR-RINGS AND PINS.
ONYX AND JET BAR-RINGS AND PINS.
GOLD BAND AND CHAIN BRACELETS.
GOLD LOCKETS AND NECKLACES.
SEAL RINGS, AMETHYST, CAMEO, TOPAZ, &c.
SLEEVE-BUTTONS AND STUDS.
HANDKERCHIEF-RINGS, GLOVE-FASTENERS.
DIAMOND RINGS AND STUDS.
CHILDREN'S GOLD AMULETS.
CHILDREN'S GOLD RINGS AND EAR-RINGS.
GOLD WATCH-CHAINS.
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SEE PRICES BEFORE BUYING.
WATCHES AND JEWELRY REPAIRED.
GEO. C. ALLEN,
No. 841 Broadway, near 14th-st.

Bargains in Silver-Ware.
WHOLESALE PRICES.
GEO. C. ALLEN, NO. 841 Broadway, near 14th-st.

Rain-Water Sherries.
SPARKLING WINES,
DESSERT WINES,
RENOWNED LIQUORS,
STRASBOURG PATES.
JOHN DUNCAN'S SONS,
UNION-SQUARE.

DIED.

BAILEY.—At Andover, Mass., on the 24th inst., JOHN C., son of Theo. W. and Cornelia Bailey, aged 17 years, 10 months and 11 days.

CLOSE.—At Greenwich, Conn., on Friday, Dec. 22, ABRAM H. CLOSE, aged 68 years.

His funeral will take place from his late residence, on Tuesday, the 26th, at 11 A. M. Carriages will be in waiting for the 9 A. M. train from New-York.

FARLEIGH.—On Friday morning, Dec. 22, GEORGIANNA T., wife of William C. Farleigh, and daughter of William A. Blanck.

The relatives and friends of the family, the members of Henry Clay Lodge F. A. M., the Companions of Empire Chapter R. A. M., also Sir Knights of Manhattan Commandery K. T., are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from her late residence, No. 1[illegible] Meserole-st., (Greenpoint,) on Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 26, at 1 o'clock.

FIELD.—On the 24th inst., at Pine Cottage, Greenwich Township, Conn., ELIZA FIELD, in the 71st year of her age.

Her funeral will take place from Friends' Meeting-house, Purchase, on Fourth Day, the 27th inst., at 11 o'clock. Carriages will meet the 9 o'clock train, New-Haven Railroad, at Rye Station.

GROSSINGER.—At Lambertville, N. J., Dec. 22, CHARLES GROSSINGER, native of Perth, Hungary, aged 47 years.

Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend the funeral, on Wednesday morning, at 11 o'clock, from First Presbyterian Church, Hayne-st., West Hoboken.

HEWITT.—At Owego, N. Y., on Sunday, Dec. 24, 1871, GURDON HEWITT, aged 81 years.

HOPPOCK.—On Monday, Dec. 25, JACOB HOPPOCK, in the 79th year of his age.

Funeral services will be held at his late residence, No. 22 West 14th-st., on Wednesday, 27th inst., at 1 o'clock P. M.

HOUGHTON.—On Friday evening, Dec. 22, CAROLINE G., wife of Rev. George H. Houghton, D. D., Rector of the Church of the Transfiguration and daughter of the late John Anthon.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral services at the Church of the Transfiguration, East 29th-st., on Tuesday, Dec. 26, at 10 A. M.

HOW.—At Cazenovia, N. Y., Dec. 22, ELIZA LITCHFIELD, wife of Calvin F. How, and daughter of the late Hon. Elisha Litchfield, of Cazenovia.

HOOD.—In Brooklyn, on Sunday, Dec. 24, CHARLES B. HOOD, aged 71 years.

The relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral on Wednesday, Dec. 27, at 10 o'clock, from his late residence, No. 1[illegible] Sands-st., Brooklyn.

MALLERY.—At Lafayette, Jersey City, on Friday, the 22d, ISABELLA J., wife of John R. Mallery, and daughter of Col. James Harrison, aged 39 years.

Her relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend her funeral on Wednesday, the 27th, at [illegible] o'clock, from the Church of the Ascension, corner of 5th-av. and 10th-st., New-York.

McGUIRE.—In Harlem, Dec. 24, SAMUEL ALEXANDER McGUIRE, aged 20 years, 5 months, and 10 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of his parents, No. 229 East 123d-st., on Wednesday, 27th inst., at 1 o'clock P. M.

MEDAY.—Monday, Dec. 25, after a short illness, at her residence, Java-st., Greenpoint, CHARLOTTE ANNE BOWEN, wife of Jacob P. Meday, in the [illegible] year of her age.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral on Thursday, Dec. 28, at 10 A. M., from Church of the Ascension, Kent-st., Greenpoint, without further notice. Remains will be taken to Trinity Cemetery for interment.

OGDEN.—On Sunday, 24th inst., JOHN OGDEN, of New-York, aged 71 years.

Funeral services will be held this day, (Tuesday,) at 2 o'clock, at Dr. Hutton's Church, Washington-square.

STAPLES.—At Bridgeport, Conn., on Monday, Dec. 25, Mrs. CHARLOTTE H. STAPLES, aged 40 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral on Thursday, the 28th, at 2 o'clock, from Christ Church. New-Haven train at 11¼ A. M. from New-York. Carriages will be in waiting at the depot in Bridgeport.

STORRS.—At Plainfield, N. J., Dec. 25, JOSEPH STORRS, aged 77 years.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, Plainfield, on Wednesday, Dec. 27, at 2 P. M. Train leaves New-York by New-Jersey Central Railroad, foot of Liberty-st., at 12¾ P. M.

SPEAR.—On Saturday, Dec. 23, EDMUND T., youngest son of the late Charles Spear.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, No. 2[illegible] Lexington-av., on Tuesday, 26th inst., at 11 o'clock A. M.

SUYDAM.—On Monday, Dec. 25, ELIZA CHAMPLIN, wife of James A. Suydam, and only daughter of the late James Dill, Sen., of New York.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend her funeral from the residence of her uncle, James Suydam, No. 15 West 38th-st., on Thursday, 28th inst., at 11 o'clock, A. M.

TRASK.—In Brooklyn, Dec. 23, 1871, Capt. BENJAMIN J. H. TRASK, aged 71 years, 6 months, 5 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral from his late residence, No. 147 Fort Green-place, Brooklyn, Tuesday, Dec. 26, at 2 P. M.

VALENTINE.—At Mendham, N. J., on Sunday, Dec. 24, Mrs. LYDIA VALENTINE, aged 76 years.

Funeral services at her late residence, at Mendham, on Wednesday, Dec. 27, at 1 o'clock P. M. Carriages will be in waiting at Morristown on the arrival of the train, which leaves New-York at 9:10 o'clock A. M.

WELLS.—In Brooklyn, E. D., Saturday morning, Dec. 23, JESSIE HENDERSON, wife of Rev. J. D. Wells, D. D.

Funeral service in the South Third-street Presbyterian Church, on Wednesday, 27th inst., at 2 o'clock.

OFFICE OF THE GREAT WESTERN (MARINE) INSURANCE COMPANY, NO. 39 WILLIAM-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1871.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Great Western Insurance Company, the President of the Company remarked:

"Since we last met here as a Board, one of our associates, Mr. JOHN R. GARDNER, has died, and we shall not be favored any more with his presence at our councils. As is very beautifully expressed of another in the Book of Inspiration, he has literally been 'gathered to his fathers,' and is buried by the side of his father, at Bristol, R. I.

"As a fitting testimony of the appreciation in which he was held here, I offer the following resolutions for your approval:

"*Resolved*, That in the death of Mr. GARDNER, this Company, and we as individuals, have sustained a loss which is appreciated and felt by his absence from our number. For many years past a member of this Board, his rare business talents, his nice sense of honor, and his unyielding integrity have largely contributed to procure for the Company an enviable reputation at home and abroad for stability and success.

"*Resolved*, That while we bear our testimony to his worth as a man and a citizen of this commercial community, wherein the general prosperity has been largely benefited by his influence, we also sympathize deeply with his family and friends, to whom his loss must come home with unabated sorrow.

"*Resolved*, That the foregoing be published in the daily City journals, and a copy be sent to his surviving family."

WM. T. LOCKWOOD,
Secretary.

MISCELLANEOUS.

OFFICES FOR A BANK, INSURANCE Company and lawyers in the elegant new building No. 21 Park-row, opposite new Post-office. Landlord in Room No. 5.

POST-OFFICE NOTICE.

The mails for Europe, during the week ending SATURDAY, Dec. 30, 1871, will close at this office on TUESDAY, at 11 A. M., on WEDNESDAY, at 11½ A. M. and on SATURDAY, at 5 A. M.

P. H. JONES, Postmaster.

OFFICE MANHATTAN GAS-LIGHT COMPANY,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1871.
J. W. BARTLETT, ESQ., NO. 569 BROADWAY. DEAR SIR: You ask my opinion of [illegible] of the street lamps introduced in this City by you. I give it with pleasure. I have not seen any to equal them, either in this country or in Europe. They are cleaner, and in every way superior to any other [illegible] which I am acquainted, and not only better but [illegible] sightly in appearance.
Sincerely yours,
CHARLES ROOME, President.

$150,000 SOLD.—ROYAL HAVANA Lottery of Cuba drawn Jan. 5; [illegible] tickets $32, currency; shares in proportion. Send for circulars or call for information on JOSEPH BATES, agent, No. 194 Broadway.

COMMISSIONER FOR ILLINOIS AND other States and Notary Public. No. 5 Beekman-st., Room No. 7 first floor.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE SECOND EDITION OF TAINE'S ENGLISH LITERATURE IS NOW READY. 2 vols., $10. HOLT & WILLIAMS, Publishers, New-York.

POLITICAL.

CITIZENS' REFORM ASSOCIATION.—Committee of Ninety will meet TUESDAY, Dec. 26, at 12 o'clock, at Rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, corner of William and Cedar sts., on important business.
JOHN FOLEY, Chairman.
THOS. S. CUNNINGHAM, N. G. DUNN, } Secretaries.

THE ORLEANS.

Some Account of the Property Claimed by the Family.

From Paris Journal.

On the 6th of August, 1830, the yearly revenue of the House of ORLEANS, two-thirds of which was made up by the produce of 316,000 acres of forest, and the remainder of their property in appanage, was valued at 5,000,000 of francs, representing a capital of 300,000,000. And yet Duke LOUIS PHILIPPE JOSEPH, father of King LOUIS PHILIPPE, died insolvent in 1793, leaving 75,000,000 of debts, in liquidation of which he had given up to his creditors all his personal property, except that which he held by appanage, which had been returned to the domain of the State by the law of the 6th April, 1871. Those personal properties were bought in by the Government, who paid as price for them a sum of 37,740,000 francs, or little more than half the liabilities. How does it happen that Princes who were not possessors of a solitary centime in 1814 turned out to be three hundred times millionaires fifteen years later? The explanation of that phenomenon is very simple. King LOUIS XVIII., by a simple royal ordonnance anterior to the publication of the charter, restored to the ORLEANS family all of their property which the State still possessed, and reconstituted in their favor, in contempt of the law of 1791, the majorat, created by LOUIS XIV. in favor of his brother, Monsieur. Only, LOUIS XVIII. forgot to make restitution to the country of the 37,740,000 francs which had been paid by it in the discharge of the succession to Duke PHILIPPE EGALITE. It was all profit. At the same time as this gift, the same King also returned to the Dowager Duchess of ORLEANS the property of her father, the Duke DE PENTHIEVRE, sole heir to the natural children of LOUIS XIV.; and that rich property reverted to LOUIS PHILIPPE and his sister, Mlle. ADELAIDE, on the death of their mother in 1821. We must add to those magnificent spoils about 20,000,000 received from the milliard of emigrants. Such was the fortune of the House of ORLEANS when its chief was called to the throne, on the 7th August, 1830, by 211 Deputies, violators of the charter and of their own mandate. The same day on which Duke LOUIS PHILIPPE D'ORLEANS accepted the Crown he signed a deed at the house of M. DENTEND, notary, Rue-Croix-des-Petits-Champs, by which he bestowed *inter vivos* on all his children, except the eldest, his entire real and personal estate, but reserving the life use of it to himself. If contemporary statements are to be believed, the document was executed in great haste on the 6th August, but the date was left in blank until the advent to the throne was a consummated fact. To give the deed a sure date, it was necessary to have it registered at once, which would involve the expenditure of a considerable sum, several millions of francs, and the chief of the House of ORLEANS had no idea of drawing so much money from his cash-box in prospect of a precarious crown. The following is what took place: Article 20 of the law of the 22d Frimaire, year VII., which provides that: "the fees on deeds and those on transfers by decease shall be paid before registration in the amounts set forth in the present article. No person can be allowed to diminish or postpone the payment, &c." But what the Duke of ORLEANS wanted was precisely to lessen the payment, or, at least, to postpone it. And so Baron LOUIS, Minister of Finance, was applied to. On his side, the Minister saw rise before his eyes Article 59 of the same law of the 22d Frimaire, year VII., thus drawn up: "No public authority, neither the administration, nor its functionaries, can admit any reduction or modification of the duty established by the present or of the penalties incurred, nor shall they suspend them or in any way cause delay in their recovery, without becoming personally responsible for the same." These requirements of the law did not restrain Baron LOUIS, and he signed a Ministerial warrant authorizing the registration department to enroll on the debtor side, that is to say, to grant credit for the gift which had been made over in the presence of M. DENTEND. M. LEFEUILLADE, receiver of the second Court of notariate acts, should, by virtue of article 59, just quoted, have resisted an illegal order which did cover his responsibility; but he did not venture to protest, and submitted.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

BUSINESS PROPERTIES FOR SALE.
No. 10 Maiden-lane.
Corner Church and Thames-st.
No. 7 State-st.
No. 63 Beekman-st.
No. 149 Cherry-st.
E. A. J. LYNCH & HUGH N. CAMP, No. 106 Broadway.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

Suburban Homes.

Four tracks with steel rails, when completed with cars and ferry-boats unsurpassed, much increase the value of every home on the line of the Central Railroad of New-Jersey. For information as to houses, lots, farms, &c., on the line, apply to A. D. HOPE, No. 119 Liberty-st.

PALISADES. — TWENTY-FIVE TO 100 acres on the Palisades, fourteen miles from City Hall, nearly third of a mile front on the river and cliff, overlooks New-York and Westchester Counties and the Sound, easy of access, lies very attractively for improvement, and convenient to the new hotel now erecting on the cliff at Englewood. C. D. KELLOGG or B. S. DOWNS, No. 115 Broadway.

M. A. J. LYNCH & HUGH N. CAMP, No. 106 Broadway, offer for sale or exchange for City property some very desirable improved and unimproved property, well situated in Westchester County, within eleven miles of City Hall, and within five or ten minutes' walk of depots on Harlem Railroad.

ORANGE, N. J.—COUNTRY HOUSES, lands and village lots for sale; a great variety. Also, furnished and unfurnished houses to let for season or year, by BLACKWELL & SMITH, 348 Broadway, 9 to 11; or Orange, corner Main and Cone sts.

DWELLINGS TO LET.

TO LET—AT A LOW RENT, ON THE BANKS of the Hudson, 160th-st., Bloomingdale, a dwelling-house, with barn and stable, and plenty of land for a garden; a pleasant suburban residence near the grand Boulevard. Apply at No. 5 Beekman-st., Room No. 7, first floor.

TO LEASE FOR A TERM OF YEARS— House and lot No. 44 Harrison-st., near Washington-st.; lessee may alter for business purposes. Terms moderate. Apply to FREDERICK CLARKSON, office No. 19, No. 54 Wall-st.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

OFFICES TO LET IN TIMES BUILDING.
SPLENDID OFFICES TO LET IN THE FIRE-PROOF TIMES BUILDING.
Apply at TIMES COUNTING-ROOM.

TO LET OR LEASE—ON BROOME-ST., 100 feet from Broadway, a first-class new and modern store, now being finished; will be leased at a reasonable rent to a good tenant. Apply to HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine-st.

FINE LOFTS, 50X100, WITH STEAM power, to let, together or separate; good light. Apply at Nos. 35 and 37 Wooster-st.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

HUGH N. CAMP, Auctioneer.

BY E. A. J. LYNCH & HUGH N. CAMP,
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REAL ESTATE, STOCK, BONDS, &C., AT PUBLIC SALE.
REAL ESTATE IN NEW-YORK AND WESTCHESTER COUNTY AT PRIVATE SALE.
ALSO, CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF ESTATES, RENTING, &c.

FRIDAY, Jan. 5,
at 12 o'clock, at the Exchange Sales-room, No. 111 Broadway,
PARTITION SALE
OF VALUABLE TENEMENT PROPERTY ON EAST 38TH-ST.
EAST THIRTY-EIGHT-STREET, BETWEEN SECOND AND THIRD AVENUES—The four-story Philadelphia brick tenement-house with four-story frame in rear. Size of lot, 25x98.9 feet, known as No. 318 East 38th-st.
Also,
A two-story brick private stable located on south side of East 36th-st., between Lexington and 3d avs., and known as No. 5 Sniffen-court.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10,
at 12 o'clock, at the Exchange Sales-room, No. 111 Broadway,
AUCTION SALE OF
NINETY VALUABLE PROSPECT PARK LOTS, LOCATED ON WASHINGTON AND FRANKLIN AVS., MONTGOMERY AND CROWN STS., BROOKLYN.

MONDAY, Jan. 15,
at 12 o'clock, at the Exchange Sales-room, No. 111 Broadway,
A VALUABLE FRONT ON MADISON-AV.
Madison-av., east side, between 62d and 63d sts., whole front, size 25x100.10 feet.
ALSO,
SEVEN VALUABLE HARLEM LOTS.
Five lots north side of 130th-st., 225 feet west of 6th-av., each lot 25x99 feet.
Two lots south side of 130th-st., 275 feet east of 7th-av., each lot 25x99 feet.

RICHARD J. GARRETTSON, Auctioneer.

AUCTION SALE.—SUPREME COURT.— THOMAS H. LANDON, Esq., referee. Exchange Salesroom, No. 111 Broadway, THURSDAY, Dec. 28, 1871, 12 noon. Dwelling and lot 25x118 feet on 5th-st., 40 feet from south-easterly corner of Thompson.
WINANS, SANDS & GARRETTSON, Auctioneers, No. 55 Liberty-st.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

SUPREME COURT.—CITY AND COUNTY of New-York.—SUSAN C. CURRIE and others against GILBERT T. REEDER and others.—In pursuance of a judgment of the Supreme Court of the State of New-York made in the above entitled action, I, JAMES H. COLEMAN, the referee in the said judgment named, will expose to sale at public auction, at the Exchange Sales-room, No. 111 Broadway, in the City of New-York, on Friday, the 29th day of December, 1871, at 12 o'clock noon, by Joseph McGuire, auctioneer, the following described premises, viz.: All those four certain lots, pieces or parcels of ground, situate, lying and being on the north-easterly corner of Ninth-avenue and One Hundred and Sixteenth-street, in the City of New-York, and bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point in the easterly line of Ninth-avenue at its intersection with the northerly line of One Hundred and Sixteenth-street, and running thence northerly along the said easterly line of Ninth-avenue, one hundred feet, ten inches, thence easterly and parallel with One Hundred and Sixteenth-street one hundred feet, thence southerly and parallel with Ninth-avenue, one hundred feet and ten inches to the northerly line of One Hundred and Sixteenth-street, and thence westerly along the northerly line of One Hundred and Sixteenth-street, one hundred feet to the point or place of beginning, together with the right, title and interest of the said Gilbert T. Reeder, of, in and to one-half of the width of said Ninth-avenue and One Hundred and Sixteenth-street, lying in front of and adjoining the said four lots of ground, together with the appurtenances thereunto belonging or appertaining.—Dated New-York, Dec. 7, 1871.
JAMES H. COLEMAN, Referee.
WM. & A. W. LOWERRE, Plaintiff's Attorneys.

FINANCIAL.

$100,000,000 5-20 BONDS

HAVE BEEN CALLED IN BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND ARE NOW BEING PAID.

Many holders of these securities have been converting them, through us, into the

PEORIA & ROCK ISLAND First Mortgage 7 Per Cent. Gold Bonds,

thereby adding 25 PER CENT. TO THEIR CAPITAL, and about 45 PER CENT. to their YEARLY INCOME.

We recommend these bonds strongly, for the following reasons:

The Road, ninety-one miles in length, is already COMPLETED, and *earning much more than the interest on the whole issue of bonds.*

The mortgage, $1,500,000, is less than $16,500 per mile.

The road passes through a rich, populous, agricultural, manufacturing, and coal district.

It connects Peoria and Rock Island, two of the largest and most flourishing cities in Illinois, and forms part of a trunk-line from Indianapolis to St. Paul—575 miles. It also connects two navigable rivers—the Illinois and Mississippi. The bonds are authorized for the extra equipments and necessary buildings required to do the business now offered.

They are coupon bonds, $1,000 each, and can be registered if desired.

Interest, seven per cent., gold, free of tax, payable February and August.

Price, 90 and interest, in currency.

Maps and full particulars furnished by

TURNER BROTHERS,
No. 14 Nassau-st., New-York.

BANKING HOUSE OF Geo. Opdyke & Co. 25 NASSAU ST. CORNER OF CEDAR ST.

FOUR PER CENT. interest allowed on current accounts, subject to check at sight.
PRIME INVESTMENTS for trust and other funds always on hand.
INVESTMENT ORDERS promptly executed for Governments, Gold, Bonds and other Securities.
COLLECTIONS WANTED ON CHICAGO, KEOKUK, DES MOINES, IOWA CITY, ST. JOSEPH, and other points in the Western States.

CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURG RAILROAD COMPANY,
OFFICE OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER,
CLEVELAND, Ohio, Dec. 9, 1871.

THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THIS COMPANY are hereby notified that the new certificates for the guaranteed stock for capitalization of rental under the lease to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will be issued in exchange for the outstanding certificates of stock, on and after THURSDAY, Jan. 4 proximo. Stockholders registered in New-York will make the exchange at the office of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company. Those registered in Cleveland at the Company's office, in that city.

The stock to be issued in exchange will be entitled to dividends at the rate of seven per cent. per annum, payable quarterly on the first days of March, June, September and December, respectively in each year, out of the rental received under the said lease, and such dividends will be payable free of the income tax of the United States, and of all taxes which may be collected in any manner through or by means of the Corporation owning the road, or the Corporation leasing the same, the payment of all such taxes being assumed by the lessee.

The new issue will be made in the ratio of one hundred and forty-two dollars and eighty-five cents of new stock for every one hundred dollars of the present stock. Persons entitled to the fractional part of a share will receive a scrip certificate therefor convertible into the guaranteed stock when presented in sums of fifty dollars.

A cash dividend at the rate of ten per cent. per annum, free of Government tax, for the month of November, 1871, being ten-twelfths of one per cent. upon the present outstanding capital stock of the Company, will be paid at the same time and places, in connection with the exchange of certificates.

The transfer-books of the Company will reopen for the transfer of the new stock on Friday, Jan. 5, proximo.
GEO. A. INGERSOLL, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE ST. LOUIS, ALTON AND TERRE HAUTE RAILROAD COMPANY,
No. 12 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1871.

A MEETING OF THE HOLDERS OF the Preferred Second Mortgage Bonds and the Second Mortgage Income Bonds of this Company will be held at the office of the Company, No. 12 Wall-st., on MONDAY, the 17th of January, 1872, at 1 o'clock P. M., to authorize an increase of Preferred Stock of said Company, in accordance with the provisions of the deed of trust.

All holders of the above-mentioned bonds are requested to be present, in person or by proxy. The transfer books of the Second Mortgage Preferred and Income Bonds will be closed on the 10th of January, until the 18th of January, 1872.
S. J. TILDEN,
E. JUDSON HAWLEY,
Trustees for the holders of Second Mortgage Income and Preferred Bonds.

OFFICE OF THE
ST. LOUIS, ALTON AND TERRE HAUTE R. R. CO.,
No. 12 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1871.

A MEETING OF THE HOLDERS OF the Preferred Stock of this Company will be held at the office of the Company, No. 12 Wall-st., on WEDNESDAY, the 10th of January, 1872, at 1 o'clock P. M., to consider the question of an increase of the preferred stock of said Company, in accordance with the provisions of the deed of trust. All holders of the above-mentioned stock are requested to be present in person or by proxy. The transfer-books of the preferred stock will be closed on the 2d of January until the 11th of January, 1872.
By order of the Board of Directors,
G. H. GURLEY, Assistant Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE
RESOLUTE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 161 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.

THIS COMPANY HAVE THIS DAY complied with the requisition of the Superintendent of the Insurance Department of the State of New-York by the full payment on the part of its stockholders of the fifty per cent. assessment made on them, and ALL IMPAIRMENT, (caused by the recent conflagration at Chicago,) has thereby been made good, and the CAPITAL RESTORED TO TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS over and above ALL LIABILITIES.
JOHN GIHON, President.
WM. M. RANDELL, Secretary.

LOST OR STOLEN—CERTIFICATE NO. 1,374 for one hundred shares of the Preferred Stock of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company in the name of F. P. James & Co., dated May 8, 1871.

Transfer has been stopped, and all persons are cautioned against purchasing, negotiating or retaining the same.

A reward will be paid upon its return to S. SKAATS & BROTHER, Brokers, No. 34 Broad-st.

MANHATTAN TELEGRAPH COMPANY,
OFFICE NO. 122 FRONT-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1871.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Stockholders of the Manhattan Telegraph Company for the election of directors will be held Dec. 28 at the office of the Company, No. 122 Front-st. Polls open from 12 to 1 o'clock.
W. F. COFFER, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE HAMILTON FIRE INSURANCE CO.,
No. 11 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1871.

AN ELECTION OF DIRECTORS OF this Company will be held at the office on TUESDAY, Jan. 2, 1872. The polls will be open from 12 M. to 1 P. M., and the transfer-books closed until that date.
J. C. WINANS, President.
JAMES GILMORE, Secretary.

THE NATIONAL CITIZENS' BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1871.

AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking-room, on TUESDAY, the 9th day of January next. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.
W. H. OAKLEY, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 6, 1871.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Stockholders of this bank, for the election of eleven Directors to serve the ensuing year, will be held at the banking-house, TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872. Polls open from 12 to 1 P. M., at No. 42 Wall-st.
J. D. VERMILYE, President.

OFFICE OF THE STAR FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 161 BROADWAY, Dec. 21, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Company will be held at this office MONDAY, the 8th day of January next. Polls open from 12 to 1 o'clock.
JAMES M. HODGES, Secretary.

COUNTY, CITY AND TOWN ILLINOIS REGISTERED BONDS.—Interest, coupons and principal paid by the State Treasurer, in the City of New-York. One of the most desirable investment securities in market. AUG. T. POST, No. 5 Day-st.

FINANCIAL.

Midland Railroad FIRST MORTGAGE 7 Per Cent. Gold Bonds,

LIMITED TO $20,000 PER MILE ON FINISHED ROAD.

The rapid progress toward completion of this great *Trunk Line* from New-York to the West and to Canada, enables us to offer to investors at PAR AND INTEREST a further limited issue of these favorite securities.

Upward of 340 miles of this road, including the New-Jersey section, are already finished, equipped, and in operation; and contracts with responsible parties have been made for its entire completion by the first day of July next. When this shall have been accomplished its earnings cannot fail to be large and highly remunerative, as it has advantages at least equal to those of any of its competitors for both local and through business. It is building for cash, *of which nearly $6,000,000 have been furnished by subscription to its stock at* PAR. The work is substantial, and, including equipment, has not exceeded in cost $60,000 per mile, which is *less than one-third* of the amount at which some of the trunk lines of roads leading from New-York are capitalized, and on which they are paying good dividends.

In view of these facts, the Midland First Mortgage Bonds must be regarded as a first-class security—quite as safe as Governments; and, by making the exchange at the present difference in price, *holders of Midland Bonds will receive 35 per cent. more of revenue upon the amount invested than the holders of Government Bonds.*

For sale or exchange for Governments at their market price, by

GEORGE OPDYKE & CO.,
No. 25 Nassau-st.

Howes & Macy, Bankers,

NO. 30 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK,

Offer the same facilities to Depositors as Incorporated Banks, and allow Interest on daily Balances at the rate of Four per Cent.

Collections made on any point at current rates, with immediate returns.

Special attention paid to choice Stock, Bonds, &c., &c., for Investors.

John J. Cisco & Son,

BANKERS,
No. 59 Wall-st., New-York.

RECEIVE DEPOSITS subject to check at sight, on which INTEREST is allowed at the rate of FOUR PER CENT. per annum.
Checks drawn on us are received on deposit by all the City banks.
CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT issued, payable on demand.
GOVERNMENTS, GOLD, STOCKS and BONDS bought and sold on commission.

NOTICE.

REDEMPTION OF 5-20 BONDS OF 1862.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 20, 1871.

By virtue of the authority given by an act of Congress approved July 14, 1870, entitled "An act to authorize the refunding of the national debt," I hereby give notice that the principal and accrued interest of the bonds herein-below designated, known as Five-twenty Bonds, will be paid at the Treasury of the United States, in the City of Washington, on and after the 20th day of March, 1872, and that the interest on said bonds will cease on that day. That is to say, Coupon Bonds known as the "Second Series," act of Feb. 25, 1862, dated May 1, 1862, as follows:

COUPON—SECOND SERIES.

$50—No. 5481 to No. 10775, both inclusive.	
$100—No. 12094 to No. 23285, both inclusive.	
$500—No. 7945 to No. 16170, both inclusive.	
$1,000—No. 11121 to No. 27443, both inclusive.	
	$16,000,000

REGISTERED.

$50—No. 698 to No. 840, both inclusive.	
$100—No. 3080 to No. 3891, both inclusive.	
$500—No. 2484 to No. 2888, both inclusive.	
$1,000—No. 11009 to No. 13150, both inclusive.	
$5,000—No. 3463 to No. 4109, both inclusive.	
$10,000—No. 3900 to No. 7774, both inclusive.	
	4,000,000
Total	$20,000,000

Of the amount outstanding (embraced in the numbers as above) sixteen million ($16,000,000) dollars are Coupon Bonds and four million ($4,000,000) dollars are Registered Bonds.

Coupon Bonds of the act of Feb. 25, 1862, were issued in four distinct series. Bonds of the first series (all of which have been previously called for redemption) do not bear the series designated upon them, while those of the second, third and fourth series are distinctly marked on the face of the bonds.

United States securities forwarded for redemption should be addressed to the "Loan Division," Secretary's Office, and all Registered Bonds should be "assigned to the Secretary of the Treasury for redemption."

The bonds specified in the notice of Dec. 7, will be paid upon presentation, together with all interest due.
GEO. S. BOUTWELL, Secretary.

JOHN MUNROE & CO.,
BANKERS,
NO. 8 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK,
Issue Circular Letters of Credit for Travelers, and Draw Bills on
MUNROE & CO., No. 7 Rue Scribe, Paris, and
ALEXANDERS, CUNLIFFES & CO.,
No. 30 Lombard-st., London.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 59 WALL-ST.
issue COMMERCIAL and TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE in all PARTS of the WORLD.

REDEMPTION OF BONDS OF THE HOUSTON AND TEXAS CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY—EXTENSION OF TIME.—Sealed proposals for the sale of bonds to the two sinking funds will be received until March 1, 1872. The amount in the sinking fund provided for the redemption of the bonds, secured by mortgage on the main line, is one hundred and twenty thousand ($120,000) dollars. The amount in the sinking fund provided for the redemption of the bonds, secured by mortgage on the Western Division, is thirty-two thousand ($32,000) dollars. Proposals should be addressed to the undersigned, and plainly indicate whether the bonds offered are of the main line or of the Western Division. The bonds offered at lowest price will be purchased, and successful bidders notified without delay.
SHEPHERD KNAPP,
WM. WALTER PHELPS, } Trustees.
Dec. 1, 1871. 26 Exchange-place, New-York City.

OFFICE OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD CO.,
No. 120 BROADWAY, Dec. 11, 1871.

THE BOOKS FOR THE TRANSFER of registered bonds will be closed on Friday, Dec. 15, preparatory to the payment of interest due Jan. 1, 1872. Such payment will be made by mailing to the address of each bondholder of record at the closing of the books a coin check for the amount of interest due.

All bondholders who have changed their Post-office address since July 1, 1871, are requested to send new address at once to this office. The books will be reopened Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1872.
A. H. BARNEY, Treasurer.

OFFICE METROPOLITAN GAS-LIGHT COMPANY,
BROADWAY, CORNER 42D-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of the Metropolitan Gas-light Company, for the election of directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Company's office, corner Broadway and 42d-st., on Jan. 8, 1872.

Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M., and longer if required. The transfer-books will be closed on the evening of Dec. 28, and reopened on the morning of Jan. 9, 1872.
O. F. ZOLLIKOFFER, Secy.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the first meeting of the stockholders of the United States Mortgage Company has been called by the corporators thereof to be held at the offices of said Company, No. 50 Wall-st., in the City of New-York, on the 30th day of December, 1871, at 11 o'clock A. M., and that the first election of directors will take place at said meeting. By order of the corporators.
B. H. HUTTON, Chairman.
CHARLES TRACY, Secretary.
Dated NEW-YORK, Nov. 28, 1871.

NATIONAL BROADWAY BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1871.

ELECTION.—THE ANNUAL ELECTION for Directors of this bank and for Inspectors of the next ensuing election, will be held at the banking-house, No. 237 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, proximo. Poll open from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.
J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 8, 1871.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of this bank, for the election of Directors and Inspectors of Election, will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, 9th January, 1872, from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.
ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

THE BANK OF NEW-YORK NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 8, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the Banking-room, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872. Polls open from 12 to 1 P. M.
W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS will be held on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, from 1 to 2 P. M.
ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

BONDS WANTED—A LARGE LOT OF railroad, State, City and county bonds that will pay 10 to 12 per cent. on investment. Parties wishing to sell will find a purchaser, if description and price are satisfactory. Address Box No. 1,581, Post-office.

FINANCIAL.

THE NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY

OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,
Nos. 261 AND 263 BROADWAY, CORNER OF WARREN-ST.

Capital, - - - - - $1,000,000

Pays Four per Cent. Interest per Annum on Deposit, subject to Check at Sight.
Pays Five Per Cent. Interest Per Annum on Special Deposits Remaining Six Months or Longer.
ACTS AS TRUSTEE FOR ESTATES,
and especially for
RAILROAD MORTGAGE BONDS.
D. R. MANGAM, President.
B. L. SOLOMON, First Vice-President.
B. F. BANCROFT, Second Vice-President.
JAMES MERRELL, Secretary.

TURNER BROTHERS,

M. C. Turner, T. O. Turner, J. Turner, B. Turner } BANKERS, { A. Turner, G. M. Turner, J. S. Decker

No. 14 Nassau-st., N. Y.
(Corner Pine-st., opposite United States Treasury.)

Interest allowed on daily balances. Certificates of Deposit issued available at all business centres.

Collections made with prompt returns. Stocks, Bonds, Gold, &c., bought and sold on commission. Advances made on approved securities.

Sight Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers on San Francisco.

Desirable investment securities for sale.

VERMILYE & CO. BANKERS,

16 and 18 Nassau-st. New-York.

DEALERS IN ALL ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.
BUY AND SELL ON COMMISSION
RAILWAY STOCKS, BONDS AND GOLD.
MAKING LIBERAL ADVANCES.
INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.

TO INVESTORS.
WINSLOW, LANIER & CO., BANKERS,
NO. 27 PINE-ST., NEW-YORK,
OFFER FOR SALE

any part of $1,000,000 GRAND RAPIDS AND INDIANA RAILROAD COMPANY'S FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS, bearing seven per cent. interest, payable in GOLD, free of Government tax, being the balance remaining unsold of the $8,000,000 First Mortgage Bonds, which are also secured by a LAND GRANT of 1,160,000 acres of choice fine timber land, the proceeds of the sales of which are applied to the redemption of the bonds. Hon. W. A. Howard, Land Commissioner, reports, Dec. 12, that the land sales to that date amount to about 50,000 acres, at an average of $15 per acre. He estimates the proceeds of the entire land grant at not less than $10,000,000, clear of expenses. Two hundred and twenty (220) miles of the railroad are now completed, and earning sufficient money to pay the interest on the whole issue of bonds. Price ninety and accrued interest. We recommend these bonds to investors as a perfectly safe and desirable security.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1871.
NORTH AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 192 BROADWAY.

THE DECLARATION AND CHARTER of this Company having been filed in the Insurance Department, the public are hereby notified that the books of subscription to the capital stock are now open at No. 192 Broadway, and will continue open until further notice.
WYLLIS BLACKSTONE,
R. W. BLEECKER,
E. H. R. LYMAN,
THOMAS W. GALE,
JOHN BRYAN,
HOOPER C. VAN VORST,
Commissioners.

OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN SUBMARINE COMPANY,
No. 59 LIBERTY-ST., ROOM NO. 37,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1871.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of this Company for the election of trustees to serve for the ensuing year will be held at the office of the Company, Nos. 59 and 61 Liberty-st., Room No. 37, on MONDAY, the 1st day of January, A. D. 1872, at 11 o'clock A. M.

The question of ratifying the past acts and proceedings of the trustees and other officers will also come before the meeting.
By order of the Board.
HENRY WATERMAN, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE MIDLOTHIAN COAL AND IRON COMPANY, ROOM NO. 6½ TRINITY BUILDING, NO. 111 BROADWAY,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1871.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of this Company for the election of Directors to serve for the ensuing year will be held at the Company's office on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, at 12 o'clock M.

The polls will remain open from 12 M. to 2 P. M. The transfer-books will be closed from Dec. 28, 1871, to Jan. 9, 1872, inclusive.
By order of the Board.
JOHN V. HART, Secretary.

FITCH & ELLIS,
BANKERS, NO. 11 PINE-ST.,
Offer safe and desirable
8 per Cent. Bonds at 75 and interest.
10 per Cent. Bonds at 85 and interest.
Strictly first-class Securities a specialty.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,
No. 51 WALL-ST., CORNER OF WILLIAM,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1871.

THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY will close on the 31st instant, preparatory to its annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks which shall have terminated during the year prior to the 1st of January next, are requested to furnish an account of the premiums thereon, and a statement of all claims for return of premiums, to prevent discrepancies in the accounts.
J. H. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

THE OCEAN NATIONAL BANK, OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NO. 229 BROADWAY, CORNER OF BARCLAY-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank for the ensuing year, will be held at their banking-rooms on TUESDAY, the 9th day of January next.
Polls open from 12 o'clock until 1 o'clock P. M.
J. S. HARTSHORNE, Cashier.

THE CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 8, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-rooms, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872. The polls will be open from 12 o'clock M. until 1 o'clock P. M.
C. F. COLES, Cashier.

DRY GOODS BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR TWENTY Directors of this Bank, and three Inspectors of the next ensuing election, will be held at the banking-rooms, No. 336 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.
CHARLES E. BOGERT, Cashier.

THE CHATHAM NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 6, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR FIFTEEN DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the bankinghouse, No. 196 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.
GEO. M. HARD, Cashier.

THE MARKET NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock P. M.
A. GILBERT, Cashier.

THE NATIONAL PARK BANK OF NEW-YORK,
Dec. 14, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, the 9th day of January next, from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.
J. L. WORTH, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK,
No. 257 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of the bank will be held at the banking-house, on TUESDAY, the 9th day of January next, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.
A. S. APGAR, Cashier.

MECHANICS AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.

AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this institution for the ensuing year, will be held at the bankinghouse on WEDNESDAY, the 10th day of January next, from 12 to 1 P. M.
GEO. M. YOULE, Cashier.

THE GERMAN AMERICAN BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS of this Bank for the election of Directors, &c., will be held at the Banking-room on MONDAY, Jan. 8, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M. By order of the Board.
O. H. SCHREINER, Cashier.

NINTH NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 7, 1871.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking rooms, Nos. 407 and 409 Broadway, on TUESDAY, the 9th proximo, between the hours of 12 M. and 2 P. M.
JOHN T. HILL, Cashier.

EAST RIVER NATIONAL BANK.— The annual election for fifteen Directors of this Bank will be held at the banking-house No. 682 Broadway, New-York, on TUESDAY, Jan. 9, 1872. Polls open from 2 to 3 o'clock P. M.
Z. E. NEWELL, Cashier.

MANHATTAN GAS-LIGHT COMPANY STOCK.—Want to borrow, $25,000 for six months, on 200 shares Manhattan Gas Stock, or sell the same. Address M. S., Box No. 2,560 Post-office.

FINANCIAL.

Montclair Railway OF NEW-JERSEY,

(NOW NEARLY COMPLETED,)

7 PER CENT FIRST MORTGAGE GOLD BONDS,

INDORSED BY THE N. Y. & O. MIDLAND CO.
MAY BE HAD BY APPLICATION TO
LEONARD, SHELDON & FOSTER,
NO. 10 WALL-ST.,
AND THE
MONTCLAIR RAILWAY CO.,
NO. 25 NASSAU-ST.

GEORGE OPDYKE & CO.,

BANKERS, NO 25 NASSAU-ST.,
offer for sale the following desirable securities:

New-York and Oswego Midland Railroad First Mortgage 7 per cent. Gold Bonds at par and interest.

New-Jersey Midland Railroad First Mortgage 7 per cent. Gold Bonds, (guaranteed by the New-York and Oswego Midland Railroad,) at 95 and interest.

The Syracuse and Chenango Valley Railroad First Mortgage 7 per cent. Gold Bonds, at 95 and interest.

St. Louis and South-eastern Railway First Mortgage 7 per cent. Gold Bonds, at 90 and interest.

Montgomery and Eufaula Railroad First Mortgage 8 per cent. Gold Bonds, indorsed by the State of Alabama, at 95 and interest.

Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska Railway First Mortgage 7 per cent. Gold Bonds, at 90 and interest.

Indianapolis and Vincennes Railroad Second Mortgage 6 per cent. Bonds, (guaranteed by Pennsylvania Railroad,) at 80 and interest.

Hamilton County, Illinois, 7 per cent. Bonds, at 82½ and interest.

Jefferson, Texas, 10 per cent. Bonds, (issued for municipal purposes,) at 92½ and interest.

Also agents for the sale of the FIRST MORTGAGE SINKING FUND 6 PER CENT. GOLD BONDS of the Vermont Division of the Portland and Ogdensburg Trunk Railroad line; a favorite New-England security.

ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE Scrip of all issues wanted by WM. C. GILMAN, No. 46 Pine-st., corner William-st.

DIVIDENDS.

FORTY-SECOND DIVIDEND.
MANHATTAN SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
Nos. 644 and 646 BROADWAY, CORNER OF BLEECKER-ST., Dec. 19, 1871.

The Trustees of this Institution have declared the FORTY-SECOND SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND on all deposits, (by the rules entitled thereto,) at the rate of six per Cent. per annum on all sums from $1 to $5,000, payable on and after the third Monday in January.

The dividend will be credited under date of Jan. 1, and if not withdrawn will receive interest the same as a deposit.
E. J. BROWN, President.
EDWARD SCHELL, Treasurer.
C. F. ALVORD, Secretary.

BROOKLYN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
Chartered 1824.
Offices—No. 191 Broadway, corner of Dey-st., New-York.
No. 32 Court-st., corner of Remsen-st., Brooklyn.
BROOKLYN, Dec. 23, 1871.

88th Dividend.—The usual Semi-annual Dividend of Ten per Cent., and Government tax (payable on Jan. 2, 1872,) has been declared from the earnings of the last six months.
TUNIS C. BERGEN, Secretary.

CONTINENTAL NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.

THIRTY-FIFTH DIVIDEND.

The Directors of this bank have this day declared a Dividend of Four per Cent., (4 per cent.,) free of tax, payable on and after Jan. 3, 1872.

The transfer-book will be closed from the 23d inst. to 5th prox.
C. F. TIMPSON, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE DELAWARE AND HUDSON CANAL COMPANY, NO. 71 BROADWAY, TREASURY DEPARTMENT, NEW-YORK, Dec. 11, 1871.

A DIVIDEND OF THREE AND ONE-HALF PER CENT. (less United States tax) on the stock of the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad Company, and a like dividend on the stock of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company, will be paid to the shareholders on and after Jan. 1, 1872, at the National Bank of Commerce, in New-York.

The transfer-books of the Rensselaer and Saratoga Railroad Company will be closed on the evening of 15th inst., at the office of United States Trust Company, and of the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad Company on the same evening, at National Bank of Commerce; and the books of both companies will be reopened on the morning of Jan. 2, 1872, at the National Bank of Commerce.
CHARLES P. HARTT,
Treasurer Delaware and Hudson Canal Company.

BANK OF AMERICA,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS of the Bank of America have this day declared a Dividend of (5) Five per Cent. for the current six months, free from tax, payable to the stockholders on and after TUESDAY, Jan. 2, 1872.

The transfer-books will remain closed from this date until the morning of Jan. 4, 1872.
ROBERT JAFFRAY, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE GREAT WESTERN (MARINE) INSURANCE COMPANY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.

THIRTY-SECOND SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Cash Dividend of Six per Cent., in gold, free of Government tax, will be paid on the capital stock of this Company on and after the 2d of January next.

Transfer-books are closed until that date.
By order of the Board of Directors.
WM. T. LOCKWOOD, Secretary.

NATIONAL SHOE AND LEATHER BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1871.

THIRTY-SIXTH DIVIDEND.—THE Directors of this Bank have this day declared a Dividend of Six (6) per Cent., payable, free of all taxes, on and after Jan. 2, 1872. The transfer-book will be closed from 23d inst. to the 2d proximo.
J. M. CRANE, Cashier.

HANOVER NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Three and One-half per Cent., free of all taxes, payable on the second day of January next. The transfer-book will be closed from this date, until the 2d prox.
JOHN T. BANKER, Cashier.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK
OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Four per Cent. free of all taxes, payable on and after 2d of January next. The transfer-books will close to-morrow until 2d of January.
ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

THE BANK OF NEW-YORK
NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., free from tax, payable on and after 2d January next.

The transfer-books will be closed until 3th January, 1872.
W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

NATIONAL BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1871.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent. from the earnings of the current six months, (free of tax,) payable on and after the 2d of January, 1872.

The transfer-books will remain closed until the 2d prox.
G. G. BRINKERHOFF, Cashier.

NEW-JERSEY RAILROAD AND TRANSPORTATION COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE,
No. 111 LIBERTY-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.

DIVIDEND.—THE DIRECTORS OF THIS Company have this day declared a Dividend of Seven (7) per Cent., payable on and after Jan. 2, 1872.

The transfer-books will remain closed until the 8th January, 1872.
H. J. SOUTHMAYD, Treas'r.

IMPORTERS' AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK OF NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1871.

A DIVIDEND OF SIX PER CENT. OUT of the earnings of the past six months, free of tax, has this day been declared by this bank, payable on the second day of January next. The transfer-books will remain closed until the 2d proximo.
E. H. PERKINS, JR., Cashier.

BERDAN FIRE-ARMS MANUFACTURING COMPANY.—Dividend.—The Trustees of this Company have declared a dividend of three per cent., payable Jan. 4, 1872, at the office of Messrs. Morton, Bliss & Co., No. 30 Broad-st. Transfer-books closed from Dec. 26 to Jan. 4.
CHARLES E. MILNOR, Treasurer.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1871.

THE ORIENTAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1871.

A DIVIDEND OF SIX (6) PER CENT. out of the earnings of the past six months, free from tax, has this day been declared payable on and after the second day of January next.

Transfer-books closed until that date.
HENRY T. CHAPMAN, JR., Cashier.

THE MARKET NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Five (5) per Cent., free of tax, payable to stockholders on and after Jan. 2, 1872. The transfer-books will be closed until that date.
A. GILBERT, Cashier.

MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1871.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Dividend of Five Per Cent. free from tax, payable on and after 2d January next. Transfer-book will be closed until that date.
WM. H. COX, Cashier.

NATIONAL BROADWAY BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1871.

FORTY-FOURTH DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend of $5 per share on the capital stock of this bank, free of all taxes, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, ensuing.
J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

DIVIDENDS.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD CO.,
OFFICE NO. 227 SOUTH 4TH-ST.,
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13, 1871.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.

The Transfer-books of this Company will be closed on the 20th inst., and reopened on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1872. A dividend of FIVE PER CENT. has been declared on the Preferred and Common Stock, clear of National and State taxes, payable in cash on and after the 18th of January next, to the holders thereof, as they stand registered on the books of the Company at the close of business on the 20th inst. All payable at this office. All orders for dividends must be witnessed and stamped.
S. BRADFORD, Treasurer.

FIFTEENTH DIVIDEND.
FIFTH NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.

QUARTERLY DIVIDEND.—The Board of Directors have declared a Quarterly Dividend of Three and One-half per Cent., (3½,) free of all taxes, payable Jan. 2, 1872.

The transfer-books will be closed from Dec. 21 inst. to Jan. 2.
A. THOMPSON, Cashier.

EAST RIVER NATIONAL BANK DIVIDEND.

A Dividend of Four (4) Per Cent. free from all taxes, has been declared from the profits of the last six months, payable Jan. 2, 1872.
Z. E. NEWELL, Cashier.

NORWICH AND WORCESTER RAILROAD COMPANY,
TREASURER'S OFFICE,
NORWICH, Conn., Dec. 22, 1871.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of this Company have this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., free of Government tax, payable on the first day of January next, at the New-England Trust Company's Office, No. 32 Devonshire-st., Boston, to the stockholders whose names are on the stock ledger at the close of business on the 22d inst. Transfer-books will be closed from the 22d inst. to the 2d of January, 1872.

The New-England Trust Company, No. 32 Devonshire-st., Boston, is the Transfer Agent of the Company. The Transfer Agency in New-York is closed.
G. L. PERKINS, Treasurer.

HARTFORD AND NEW-HAVEN RAILROAD OFFICE,
HARTFORD, Dec. 21, 1871.

NOTICE.—A QUARTERLY DIVIDEND OF three dollars on each share of full stock, and one and 50-100 dollars on each share scrip stock, free of Government tax, standing on the books the 23d inst. has been declared by the Board of Directors of the Hartford and New-Haven Railroad Company, payable on TUESDAY, the 2d day of January, 1872.

Stockholders in New-York will receive their dividend at the Union National Bank.

The transfer-books will be closed from the 23th of December to the 1st of January, both days inclusive.
S. P. CORNER, Secretary.

OFFICE OF CHICAGO AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 52 WALL-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Nov. 27, 1871.

A DIVIDEND OF THREE AND ONE-HALF (3½) per cent., less Government tax, has been declared on the preferred stock of this Company, payable at the office of this Company, on and after Dec. 28, 1871, to the preferred stockholders, as shown by the books of the Company on the 14th day of December, 1871.

The transfer-books of the preferred stock will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 14, 1871, at the close of business, and reopened on Saturday, Dec. 30, at 10 A. M.
A. L. PRITCHARD, Treasurer.

THE CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1871.

THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four per Cent., free from tax, out of the earnings of current six months, payable on and after TUESDAY, Jan. 2, 1872.

The transfer-books will be closed from the afternoon of Dec. 23 to the morning of Jan. 10, 1872.
C. F. COLES, Cashier.

THE COUPONS OF THE NEW-YORK AND Oswego Midland Railroad First Mortgage 7 per cent. Gold Bonds, due Jan. 1, 1872, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, on presentation at the banking-house of GEO. OPDYKE & CO., No. 25 Nassau-st. Schedules of same will be received from 28th inst., on which date the transfer-books of the registered bonds will close, to reopen Jan. 2.
D. C. LITTLEJOHN, President.
OSWEGO, Dec. 19, 1871.

UNION TRUST COMPANY OF NEW-YORK,
No. 73 BROADWAY, CORNER OF RECTOR-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

THIS COMPANY HAS DECLARED a dividend of Five per Cent., free of Government tax, payable on the 2d day of January next.

The transfer-books will close on the 27th inst. and remain closed until the 2d of January next.
C. T. CARLTON, Secretary.

THE CHATHAM NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

THE DIRECTORS HAVE THIS day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Six per cent., free of all taxes, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1872. Transfer-books will remain closed from this date until Jan. 2, prox.
GEO. M. HARD, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four (4) Per Cent free of tax, payable on and after TUESDAY, Jan. 2, 1872.

The transfer books will be closed from Dec. 23 to Jan. 2.
R. McCARTEE, Cashier.

STATE OF MICHIGAN,
STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE,
LANSING, Dec. 23, 1871.

THE INTEREST DUE JAN. 1, 1872, ON the Bonds issued by the State of Michigan will be paid at the Mercantile National Bank, in the City of New-York.
V. P. COLLIER,
State Treasurer.

OFFICE SANDUSKY, MANSFIELD AND NEWARK RAILROAD CO.
SANDUSKY, Ohio, Dec. 25, 1871.

THE COUPON MATURING JAN. 1, 1872, upon the Consolidated Bonds of the Sandusky, Mansfield and Newark Railroad Company will be paid on and after that date, at the office of the Union Trust Co., New York.
J. O. MOSS, Treas.

IRVING NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1871.

A DIVIDEND OF FOUR PER CENT. free of all tax, will be paid to the stockholders of this bank on the 2d day of January proximo, until which date the transfer-books will remain closed.
JOHN L. JEWETT, JR., Cashier.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 22.

THE INTEREST DUE JAN. 1, 1872, on Northern Pacific First Mortgage 7-30 Gold Bonds, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, at the Banking-house of Jay Cooke & Co., No. 20 Wall-st., New-York.
A. H. BARNEY, Treasurer.

GROCERS' BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1871.

A DIVIDEND OF FIVE PER CENT. WILL be paid to the stockholders on and after the 2d day of January next. By order of the Board of Directors.
SAMUEL B. WHITE, Cashier.

MANUFACTURERS' AND BUILDERS' BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1871.

THE DIRECTORS HAVE THIS DAY declared a dividend of Five per Cent., free of all taxes, payable on and after Jan. 10, 1872.
C. A. WATERBURY, Cashier.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE IN NEW-YORK.—DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend of Four per Cent., free from taxes, has been declared on the capital stock of this bank, payable on and after Jan. 2.
H. F. VAIL, Cashier.

NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD COMPANY.—Interest coupons maturing Jan. 1, 1872, will be paid on presentation on and after Jan. 2, 1872, at office of
V. K. STEVENSON & SON,
No. 11 Pine-st., New-York.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

A DIVIDEND OF SIX PER CENT. will be paid, free of tax, on and after Jan. 2, 1872.
ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

COUPONS OF THE WEST WISCONSIN RAILWAY COMPANY, maturing Jan. 1, 1872, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, 1872, when presented at the office of the Company, No. 74 Broadway.
F. E. TROWBRIDGE, Treasurer.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

FOR SALE—A LARGE, WELL-ESTABLISHED retail dry-goods business, doing a popular and profitable trade for cash. Can be purchased on favorable terms. This is an excellent opportunity for any merchant of ability to take a first-class, well-organized business. Address DRY GOODS, Box 129 Station A.

AN ACTIVE, RESPECTABLE LADY wanted immediately to take an interest in a safe and respectable business; duties light; such a person, with small cash capital, will find this worthy of attention. Apply at No. 131 East 48th-st., between Lexington and 3d avs.

I WILL SELL A THREE THOUSAND DOLLAR INTEREST in a well-established and profitable job-printing establishment down-town. Terms easy. Address W. G., *Office Evening Post.*

EXPRESSES.

North Atlantic Express Co.,

NO. 98 BROADWAY.

References: Jay Cooke & Co., J. & W. Seligman & Co., Gilead A. Smith & Co., Bankers, New-York; J. Edgar Thomson, President Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company, Philadelphia.

AGENTS IN ALL THE CITIES OF EUROPE.

Money, bonds, jewelry, freight, samples, personal effects, &c., forwarded with dispatch.
S. D. JONES, Manager.

MARBLE MANTELS.

A. KLABER, STEAM MARBLE AND MARBLEISING Works, Nos. 134 and 136 East 18th-st. Marble and marbleised mantels, tiling, marble counters, monuments at prices that defy competition. Marble turning for the trade.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

THE FIRM OF CLEVELAND & GOLDSTEIN was dissolved by mutual consent on 11th December inst. The business will be carried on by the undersigned, and who will make all collections and settle all accounts of the old firm.
MORRIS GOLDSTEIN, No. 180 Broadway.

STATIONERY.

DIARIES FOR 1872, FROM 25 CENTS TO $5.—Expense books, patent spring back account books, stationery and printing of every kind; orders solicited. FRANCIS & LOUTREL, No. 45 Maiden-lane.

PERSONAL.

FOR ADOPTION—A NEW-BORN INFANT of American parentage. Apply at the New-York Infirmary, No. 126 2d-av.

FINE ARTS.

PRIVATE SALE OF VALUABLE and authentic oil-paintings, to take place THIS and following days, at No. 425 4th-av., corner 29th-st.

SAVINGS BANKS.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
NO. 96 WARREN-ST., NEW-YORK.
SIX PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on all sums. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President.
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

Oriental Savings Bank,

No. 400 Grand-st., between Attorney and Ridge sts. Open every day, from 10 to 3, and MONDAY and SATURDAY EVENINGS, till 8. Money bearing drawing interest from the first day of the month after date of deposit. Present rate of interest—SIX PER CENT. Deposits made before Jan. 21 will draw interest from Jan. 1. MAHLON T. HEWITT, President.
ROBERT HOE,
WM. H. BUCKMASTER, } Vice-Presidents.
JOHN H. WANDELL, Auditor.
EUGENE SMITH, Attorney and Counsel.
E. H. KENNEDY, Secretary.

Broadway Savings Institution.

NO. 237 BROADWAY, entrance on Park-place.
Interest on deposits entitled thereto, for the six months ending Dec. 31, at the rate of six per Cent. per annum, on all sums of $5 and upward, will be paid on and after Monday, Jan. 15, 1872.
FRANCIS P. SCHOALS, President.
WADE B. WORRALL, Sec. PETER CUMMING, Acct.

THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK,
CORNER 3D-AV. AND 26TH-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1871.

INTEREST.—Semi-annual interest at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum on all sums from $1 to $5,000 will be paid on and after the third Monday in January.

Interest will be added to accounts Jan. 1, and if not drawn bear interest as new deposits.

All money deposited now, or on or before the 10th of January, will draw interest from Jan. 1.

Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings from 6 to 8 o'clock.
JOHN E. LYON, President.
GEO. L. HAIGHT, Secretary.

METROPOLITAN SAVINGS BANK,
Nos. 1 and 3 3d-av., New-York, opposite Cooper Institute.

CHARTERED IN 1852.

DEPOSITS $4,775,000 00

THIRTY-SEVENTH DIVIDEND.

Interest, at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, will be paid to depositors on and after Jan. 15, 1872, or if not withdrawn, will be added to the account and draw interest from Jan. 1.

Interest begins Jan. 1 on new deposits of $5 and upward. ONE DOLLAR received on deposit.
BY ORDER OF THE TRUSTEES.
ISAAC T. SMITH, President.
T. W. LILLIE, Secretary.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK,
CHATHAM-SQUARE, NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1871.

TWENTY-FOURTH DIVIDEND.

The Trustees of the ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK have ordered that a Semi-annual Dividend at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum be paid to all depositors entitled thereto under the by-laws, for the half year or quarter ending Jan. 1, 1872.

Interest not withdrawn will be added to and will be entitled to interest as principal. Interest is due and payable on and after Monday, Jan. 15.
HARRISON HALL, President.
C. D. BAILEY, Treasurer.
J. P. COOPER, Secretary.
Money deposited now will receive interest as from Jan. 1.

MUTUAL BENEFIT SAVINGS BANK,
No. 166 NASSAU-ST. (Sun Building,) New-York.
DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend, at the rate of SIX PER CENT. PER ANNUM, on all sums of $5 and upward, which have been on deposit one or more months next previous to Jan. 1, will be credited and paid Jan. 22, 1872.

INTEREST not called for will remain as principal, drawing interest accordingly. Bank open daily, at 10 to 3, and on MONDAY and SATURDAY EVENINGS, from 4½ to 6 o'clock.
CHARLES K. GRAHAM, President.
G. H. BENEDICT, Secretary.

CHARTERED BY THE UNITED STATES.
THE FREEDMAN'S SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY,
A National Savings Bank,
No. 185 Bleecker-st., New-York.

Interest every thirty days if desired. Six per cent. compound interest certificates issued. Letters of credit for travelers, bearing interest. Accounts strictly private and confidential. Deposits paid on DEMAND, with interest due. Interest paid by check to parties out of the City. Send for circular.
SAM. L. HARRIS, Manager.
JOHN J. ZUILLE, Cashier.

EXCELSIOR SAVINGS BANK.
No. 374 6th-av., corner 23d-st.

Deposits made now draw interest from Jan. 1, at SIX PER CENT.

The semi-annual interest will be paid on and after Jan. 15, and if not drawn will be credited to accounts and bear interest from Jan. 1.

Open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY evenings from 6 to 8 o'clock.
WM. M. GILES, President.
ISAAC S. BARRETT, Secretary.

EQUITABLE SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
No. 170 6th-av., corner 12th-st.

INTEREST AT THE RATE OF SIX per cent. per annum, on all sums from $5 upwards entitled thereto, will be paid on and after MONDAY, Jan. 15 next.

Interest not withdrawn will be credited as a deposit of Jan. 1.

Money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1.

BANK OPEN EVERY DAY FROM 9 A. M. TO 3 P. M.
J. P. WHITE, President.
FLOYD CLARKSON, Secretary.

PEOPLE'S SAVINGS BANK.

No. 1,148 Broadway, between 26th and 27th sts.
The usual semi-annual interest at the rate of SIX PER CENT. per annum, on all sums entitled thereto on the 1st of JANUARY, will be paid on and after JAN. 20.

ALL MONEY deposited on or before JAN. 20 will draw interest FROM JAN. 1.
FREDERICK OLMSTEAD, President.
CHARLES T. RODGERS, Secretary.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION,
No. 96 Warren-st.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1871.

The Trustees of this institution have directed that a Dividend of SIX PER CENT. per annum be paid upon all sums entitled thereto, payable on and after the 15th of January.
WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President.
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

1872.—JANUARY INTEREST.
CITIZENS' SAVINGS BANK,
Corner of Bowery and Canal-st.

The twenty-third semi-annual interest Dividend, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, will be credited and paid on and after MONDAY, Jan. 22. On deposits made now, interest will commence from Jan. 1.
E. A. QUINTARD, President.
SEYMOUR A. BUNCE, Secretary.

UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK,
Nos. 396 and 398 Canal-st., corner Laight.
SIX PER CENT. INTEREST on $5 to $5,000.
Money deposited now, will bear interest from Jan. 1.
ASSETS, $10,375,129 25.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

WANTED—BY AN EXPERT DRESS- maker, families' patronage; stylish suits made from $10 upward; walking dresses, evening dresses, cloaks and polonaise basques; latest styles at short notice very reasonable. Mme. BRITTON, No. 140 West 22d-st., between 6th and 7th avs., opposite church.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A NORTH of Ireland Protestant young woman as nurse and seamstress, chamber-maid and seamstress, or fine washer; fully competent to do either; country or City; good testimonials. Call at No. 224 6th-av.

WANTED—BY A GOOD, INTELLIGENT young woman, a situation as chamber-maid and waitress in a private family; has the best of City references from last place. Call at No. 224 6th-av., for two days.

WANTED—A COOK'S SITUATION BY A Protestant young woman, highly recommended; seven years' City references; very good cook, meats, game, soups, pastries; good baker, creams, jellies, &c.; country or City. Apply at No. 225 6th-av.

WANTED—A NURSE'S SITUATION BY A very respectable Protestant woman, about 40; is an experienced nurse, an excellent seamstress, can cut and fit and operate, dress-maker, &c.; best City testimonials. Call at No. 325 4th-av.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A COMPETENT German girl for general house-work, or as cook, washer and ironer; is willing and obliging; best City references. Call at No. 103 Bowery, entrance on 1st-st.

MALES.

WANTED—BY A GENTLEMAN, A SITUATION for his coachman, in City or country; first-class, trustworthy young man, who thoroughly understands City driving, care of horses, harness and carriages; understands care of furnace; can milk; will make himself useful. Address DAVIS, Box No. 190 Times Office.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY A RESPECTABLE colored young man as waiter in a private family; good experience. Address CHARLES, Box 298 Times Office.

ANY GENTLEMAN THAT WANTS A first-class coachman, (single,) of good abilities, with a good reference, call or address J. D., No. 24 Hoyt [illegible].

WANTED—BY A PROTESTANT YOUNG man, a situation as coachman and groom; he thoroughly understands his business; a good City driver; no objection to City or country; City references given. Address J. G., No. 137 West 19th-st.

WANTED—BY A GENTLEMAN, TO PROCURE a situation for his coachman, who is trustworthy in every respect; a careful driver, skillful with horses, willing and obliging. Address T. M. G., No. 126 West 40th-st., private stable.

HELP WANTED.

BOOT AND SHOE SALESMEN WANTED— Parties controlling a good Western or near by trade. Apply to DU BOIS, MAGOVERN & CO., No. 343 Broadway.

$375 A MONTH, EXPENSES PAID— Male or female agents—horse and outfit furnished. Business new, circulars free. Address NOVELTY CO., Saco, Me.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

CITY OF NEW-YORK, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
BUREAU OF THE RECEIVER OF TAXES,
COURT-HOUSE, PARK, No. 32 CHAMBERS-ST.,
Dec. 20, 1871.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL persons who may have omitted to pay their taxes, to pay the same at this office before the 1st day of January, 1872. On and after that date interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, calculated from Oct. 1, 1871, to day of payment, will be added. On the 15th day of January, proximo, warrants will be issued for the collection of all personal taxes remaining unpaid on that date.
BERNARD SMITH, Receiver.

SHIPPING.

WHITE STAR LINE.
NEW-YORK, CORK AND LIVERPOOL.
NEW AND FULL-POWERED STEAM-SHIPS,
THE SIX LARGEST IN THE WORLD,
AND none have made—A 900-horse power each—
Sailing from New-York on SATURDAYS, from
Liverpool on THURSDAYS, calling at Cork Harbor
on the way.
CELTIC.....Saturday, Dec. 30
ATLANTIC.....Saturday, Jan. 6
From the White Star Dock, Provost Street, Jersey
City. Passengers booked to and from Cork, Queens-
town, Liverpool, London, Paris and the Continent.
CABIN PASSAGE, $100 GOLD AND UPWARD.
Steerage, including meals, $30 currency.
Return tickets on favorable terms.
Steerage passengers landed at Liverpool docks.
Steerage passengers from Liverpool and Queenstown
sold at rate of $30 currency to New-York.
Through Bills of Lading given for Belfast, Glasgow,
Havre, Antwerp, and other ports on the Continent,
and for inland towns in Great Britain and Ireland.
For passage, berths, plans of steamers, and other information, apply at the Company's Office, No. 4 Bowling-green.
For steerage passage at No. 111 Broadway, Trinity Building. CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, Agent.

PASSENGERS PER STEAM-SHIP
CUBA embark from the Cunard wharf, foot of Grand-st., Jersey City, at 8 A. M. on Wednesday, 27th, December. CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN,
No. 4 Bowling-green, New-York.

NATIONAL LINE.

STEAM TO QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL,
From Pier No. 47 North River.
ITALY, Thursday, Dec. 28, at 8:30 A. M.
THE QUEEN, Saturday, Jan. 6, at 8:30 A. M.
EGYPT, Special, Saturday, Jan. 13, at 8 A. M.
SPAIN, Sails Saturday, Jan. 20, at 8 A. M.
Passage to Liverpool, Queenstown, or London direct: Cabin, $80 and $90, currency; steerage, $30 currency.
Prepaid steerage tickets from Liverpool, Queenstown, Londonderry, Glasgow or London, $30 currency.
For further particulars apply at the Company's office, No. 69 Broadway.
F. W. J. HURST, Manager.

INMAN LINE FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.
Royal Mail Steamers are appointed to sail as follows:
CITY OF BALTIMORE.....Saturday, Dec. 30, 8 A.M.
CITY OF WASHINGTON.....Saturday, Jan. 13, 1 P. M.
CITY OF LONDON.....Saturday, Jan. 20, 8 A.M.
CITY OF BRISTOL.....Saturday, Jan. 27, 1 P.M.
CITY OF PARIS.....Saturday, Feb. 3, 1 P. M.
and each succeeding SATURDAY and THURSDAY, from Pier No. 45 North River.
RATES OF PASSAGE.
Payable in Gold. Payable in Currency.
First cabin.....$80 | Steerage.....$30
To London.....90 | To London.....35
To Paris.....100 | To Paris.....40
Return tickets issued at reduced rates.
Steerage passengers forwarded to Havre, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Norway, Sweden or Denmark at moderate rates.
Tickets can be bought here at moderate rates by persons wishing to send for their friends.
For further information apply at the Company's office, 15 Broadway, New-York.
JOHN G. DALE, Agent.

ANCHOR LINE.

Steamers sail every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, to and from
NEW-YORK AND GLASGOW,
calling at Londonderry, Lough Foyle and Belfast.
Passengers booked and forwarded to and from all RAILWAY stations in Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Norway, Sweden or Denmark and America as safely, speedily, favorably and cheaply as by any other route of line.
THE NEW DEPARTURES.
FROM GLASGOW. FROM NEW-YORK.
Saturday, Dec. 9. EUROPA. Wednesday, Dec. 20.
Saturday, Dec. 16. INDIA. Saturday, Jan. 6.
Saturday, Dec. 23. BRITANNIA. Saturday, Jan. 13.
Saturday, Dec. 30. ANGLIA. Tuesday, Jan. 30.
And every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY thereafter from Pier No. 50 North River, New-York, at noon.
Rates of passage, payable in currency, to Liverpool, Glasgow or Londonderry:
First cabin, $80 and $75, according to location.
Cabin return tickets good for twelve months, securing best accommodations, $120.
Intermediate, $60; steerage, $30.
Certificates at lowest rates, can be bought here by those wishing to send for their friends.
Drafts issued, payable on presentation.
Apply at the Company's office to
HENDERSON BROTHERS, No. 7 Bowling-green

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE.
THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAM-SHIPS BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT BREST.
The splendid vessels on this favorite route for the Continent will sail from Pier No. 50 North River as follows:
ST. LAURENT.....LEBARBE.....Saturday, Dec. 30
WASHINGTON.....POTTIER.....Saturday, Jan. 13
VILLE DE PARIS.....SURMONT.....Saturday, Jan. 27
PEREIRE.....DANES.....Saturday, Feb. 10
RATES OF PASSAGE IN GOLD (including wine) TO BREST OR HAVRE.
First cabin.....$125 | Second cabin.....$75
Excursion tickets at reduced rates.
These steamers do not carry steerage passengers.
Passengers can leave New-York on Saturday morning and reach the Continent of Europe, by taking the steamers of this line, saved both transit by English railway and the discomforts of crossing the Channel, besides saving time, trouble and expense.
GEORGE MACKENZIE, Agent,
No. 58 Broadway.

FOR LIVERPOOL,
(VIA QUEENSTOWN),
CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAILS.
THE LIVERPOOL AND GREAT WESTERN STEAM COMPANY will dispatch one of their first-class full-power iron-screw steam-ships from their PIER NO. 46 NORTH RIVER, EVERY WEDNESDAY,
as follows:
WYOMING, Capt.-WHITEHEAD.....Dec. 27, at 12 P.M.
MINNESOTA, Capt. MORGAN.....Jan. 3, at 11½ A.M.
IDAHO, Capt. PRICE.....Jan. 10, at 2½ P.M.
KANSAS, Capt. J. H. PRICE, Jan. 17, at 7½ P.M.
COLORADO, Capt. J. PRICE.....Jan. 24, at 2½ P.M.
WISCONSIN, Capt. T. W. FREEMAN, Jan. 31, at 7½ P. M.
Cabin passage, $80, gold.
Steerage passage, (Office No. 29 Broadway,) $30, currency.
For freight or cabin passage apply to
WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 29 Wall-st.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY'S LINE TO
CALIFORNIA, JAPAN AND CHINA,
VIA PANAMA,
CARRYING MAILS, PASSENGERS AND FREIGHT TO
KINGSTON, JAMAICA, SANTA MARTHA AND GREYTOWN, AND PACIFIC COAST OF MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA, PERU AND CHILI.
Steamers leave Pier No. 42 North River, foot of Canal-st., every third and each month, except when those dates fall on Sunday, then the day previous.
Dec. 30—Steamer HENRY CHAUNCEY, Capt. A. G. GRAY, will leave Pier No. 42 North River, at 12 o'clock noon, for Aspinwall direct, connecting at Panama with steamer CONSTITUTION, Capt. ——; also connecting for all Central American and the South Pacific ports. Freight for last-named ports received until Dec. 29, at 3 P. M.
Steamer GREAT REPUBLIC will leave Pier aforesaid, Jan. 1, 1872, for Japan and China. For rates of passage, freight and all further information, apply at Company's office on the pier. Jay Gould, Agent.
F. R. BABY, Agent.

FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRAZIL.
UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.
REGULAR MAIL STEAMERS sailing on the 2d of every month.
SOUTH AMERICA, Capt. G. B. SLOCUM.....Dec. 22
MERIDA (ACAPULCO), Capt. WHITE.....Jan. 22
SOUTH AMERICA, Capt. J. B. THELAMAN, Feb. 22
These splendid steamers make an unsurpassed run and call at St. Thomas, Para, Pernambuco, Bahia and Rio de Janeiro, going and returning. For engagements of freight or passage apply at
WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 5 Bowling-green, New-York.

UNITED STATES MAIL TO HAVANA, NASSAU AND KEY WEST.
ATLANTIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY, Sailing regularly every THURSDAY, at 3 o'clock P. M., from Pier No. 4 North River.
MISSOURI, Capt. T. H. MORTON, (via Nassau,) Dec. 28.
MORRO CASTLE, Capt. T. S. CURTIS, (via Key West,) Jan. 4.
COLUMBIA, Capt. E. VAN SICE, (via Nassau,) Jan. 11.
For freight or passage apply to
A. W. DIMOCK, President,
No. 5 Bowling-green.

DIRECT LINE TO HAVANA.
HAVANA, PROGRESO AND VERA CRUZ.
New-York and Havana Mail Steamship Line.
Steamer CLEOPATRA, Tuesday, Dec. 26, at 2 P. M., from Pier 43 North River.
CLEOPATRA, Pollock, (Havana only,) Sat., Dec. 30
CITY OF MEXICO, Summerton, Wednesday, Jan. 3
ELEONORA, Hall, (Havana only,) Friday, Jan. 12
CITY OF MERIDA, Saturday, Jan. 20
For freight or passage apply to
F. ALEXANDER & SONS, No. 81 Broadway.

NOTICE TO TRAVELLERS.
Families or gentlemen going to travel on the Continent or in Europe, whom can afford the expense of a courier, should never leave New-York without one. Their services are invaluable in relieving the traveler from municipality of cares and troubles respecting passports, examination of baggage, conveyance of baggage during the best accommodations, in fact relieving the traveler from imposition and an insanity of annoyance, to which they are exposed in various parts of the Continent. Couriers can be obtained for the summer and traveling generally may always be obtained by applying to the COURIERS' SOCIETY, No. 5 Rue (2 Agar, near the Tuileries Garden, Paris.

SHIPPING.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.,
THE FLORIDA PORTS,
AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.
GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE.
CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA AND ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD.
FOUR STEAMERS A WEEK.
TUESDAYS AND SATURDAYS.
THURSDAYS
THE STEAM-SHIPS
LEO, Capt. DEARBORN, TUESDAY, Dec. 26, from Pier No. 7 East River, at 4 P. M.
MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents,
No. 6 and 8 South-st.
GENERAL BARNUM, Capt. MAZZOTT, THURSDAY, Dec. 28, from Pier No. 36 North River, at 3 P. M.
LIVINGSTON, FOX & CO., Agents,
No. 12 West-st.
MAGNOLIA, Capt. PALMER, SATURDAY, Dec. 30, from Pier No. 8 North River, at 3 P. M.
WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 5 Bowling-green.
HUNTSVILLE, Capt. CROWELL, SATURDAY, Dec. 30, from Pier No. 13 North River, at 3 P. M.
E. LOWDEN, Agent,
No. 36 Wall-st.
Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT. Superior accommodations for passengers.
Through rates and bills of lading in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Freight line.
Through rates and bills of lading in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.
C. D. OWENS, Agent, | GEORGE YONGE,
No. 329 Broadway. | Agent A. G. & G. R. R.,
No. 402 Broadway.

ERIANS ROUTE TO FLORIDA.
TWO TRIPS A WEEK.
THE NEW AND ELEGANT STEAMER
LIZZIE BAKER
will leave Baldwin's Wharf EVERY MONDAY and THURSDAY MORNING, at 10 o'clock for BRUNSWICK AND ST. MARYS, GA.
CONNECTING AT FERNANDINA AND JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
connecting at Jacksonville with BROOKS LESSOR'S splendid steamers Ocean Queen, Palatka, Matanzas, Manhattan, and other landings on St. Johns river.
RETURNING,
will leave Jacksonville TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS, at 12 o'clock M., touching at Savannah WEDNESDAYS and SATURDAYS. All intermediate landings touched at both ways, except Darien.
Through freight to all points in New-York and Philadelphia. Shipping agents in New-York.
JOHN F. ROBERTSON, Agent,
Savannah, Ga.

VIA NASSAU, N. P.
CARRYING THE ROYAL MAILS.
Atlantic Mail Steam-ship Company's steamer MISSOURI, Capt. T. H. MORTON, will sail on THURSDAY, Dec. 28, at 3 o'clock P. M., precisely, from Pier No. 4 North River.
For freight or passage apply to
A. W. DIMOCK, President,
No. 5 Bowling-green.

DRY GOODS.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

HOLIDAY GOODS
STILL CHEAPER THAN LAST WEEK
ENTIRE STOCK OF
HOLIDAY GOODS
TO BE CLEARED OUT REGARDLESS OF COST.
Rather than carry over any Holiday Goods we will sell all our fine Rosewood Writing-desks, Workboxes, Dressing-cases, Chess-men, &c., at less than cost of importation.
Still on hand, a full assortment of the finest styles of Rosewood Writing-desks, inlaid with real German silver mountings and ebony, now reduced to the same style as sold all over, at $8. And all the finer styles in proportion.
Inlaid Rosewood Work-boxes, to all the finest styles, reduced in like proportion.

To be sold without regard to cost.	TO BE SOLD WITHOUT REGARD TO COST.	To be sold without regard to cost.
Ehrich's Temple of Fashion.	Entire assortment of Dressing-cases, Inkstands, Work-boxes, Writing-desks, Portemonnaies, Wallets, Gilt and Fancy Jewelry, Fine Silk Fans, Albums, Chessmen, Opera Glasses, Slippers, Patterns and Cushions, &c.	Ehrich's Temple of Fashion.

TOYS! TOYS!!

Still on hand a large assortment of Toys, which we will now sell off at an immense sacrifice.
Lots of Toys of all kinds reduced to 5c., 10c. and 15c. each.
China Dolls at less than ever before sold.
Saratoga Trunks, with bonnet-box and tray, at 95c., the wonder of the world.
Gold Black-walnut Writing-desks, gilt edge and lock, at $2, worth $5.
Backgammon and Checker-boards, with dice, boxes and all complete at 95c.; worth $1 75.
And a host of Holiday Goods in like proportion.

MADE-UP LACE GOODS.

We have paid especial attention to this department, and offer for this week special inducements in Lace Collars and sleeves, Handkerchiefs, Cuffs, &c., &c.
Each 75c., with embroidery and lace edge, at 50c., worth 85c.
Elegant Embroidered Sets, in boxes, at 87c., worth $1 25.
Fine Lace Sets, in boxes, at $1, worth $1 75.
Elegant Lace Sets, with flowing or cord sleeves, at $1 25, worth fully $2.
Fine Lace Handkerchiefs, in endless variety, from 62c. up ward; worth fully double.
Another splendid assortment of Real Thread Lace Collars, Sets, &c., &c., at bargains.
BARGAINS IN
Hemstitched and Embroidered
Handkerchiefs, Hosiery, Muslin
and Merino Under-garments, Cor-
sets, Ladies' Fancy Scarfs and
Bows, Ribbons, Velvets,
Velvets, Castles, &c., &c.
SPECIAL BARGAINS IN
Real Thread and Guipure Laces, Silk Gimps and Passementerie Trimmings, Buttons, Loops, &c., &c.
We again remind our patrons, as last week, to call early in the week and early in the day to avoid the crowd.
Orders by mail promptly attended to, at

EHRICH'S TEMPLE OF FASHION,

NO. 287 6TH-AV., NEAR 24TH-ST.

McGIBBON & CO.

Fine Table-Cloths
and Napkins,
TAPESTRY, TABLE AND PIANO-COVERS,
REAL DOWN COMFORTABLES,
HANDKERCHIEFS, &c.
IN EVERY VARIETY,
SUITABLE FOR
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
McGibbon & Co.,
NO. 172 FIFTH-AV.,
ONE BLOCK BELOW FIFTH-AVENUE HOTEL.

A. T. Stewart & Co.,

ON TUESDAY, DEC. 26,
will largely replenish their popular stock of
Silks, Velvets, Dress Goods, Shawls,
Cloaks, Polonaises, very rich
Ready-Made Suits.
A superb assortment of
FURS,
Real Brussels Point Dresses,
Shawls and Handkerchiefs.
INDIA CAMELS' HAIR SHAWLS.
Bridal Trousseaux, Infants' Wardrobes,
Paris and Vienna
Fancy Goods,
with a variety of other articles suitable for
Holiday Presents,
forming the largest, richest, cheapest and most attractive stock ever offered in this City.
Prices lower than ever.
Broadway, 4th-av., 9th and 10th sts.

RICH LACES
FOR
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
POINT LACE SHAWLS, SETS &c.
FINE EMBROIDERED AND LACE SETS.
MILK AND LADIES' COLLARETTES.
FINE FRENCH & KNIT GOODS, &c.
Miller & Grant,
No. 579 Broadway, between 18th and 19th sts.

DRY GOODS.

NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS.

AT THE GREAT EAST-SIDE ESTABLISHMENT.
E. RIDLEY & SON,
GRAND-ST., NEW-YORK.
LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS, &c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 20c. each.
Fine line of REAL LACE COLLARS, SETS, CUFFS, FURES, BARBES, &c., at 50c. on the dollar.
NEEDLE-WORKED SETS, COLLARS, SLEEVES, &c.; everything desirable, cheap.
Two lots of REAL THREAD VAILS, at $5 50 and $6 50, worth double; just so.
IMITATION COLLARS, 10c., 15c., 25c., 50c. each, up.
CHEAP GOODS all over the house.
SASH RIBBONS, ALL SILK, seven inches wide, 50c., 62c. and 75c.
FEATHERS, FLOWERS, DRESS AND CLOAK TRIMMINGS.
SILK FRINGES, CORSETS, YANKEE NOTIONS, JEWELRY, PERFUMERY, FANCY BOXES, &c., &c.
All our TOYS and DOLLS clearing at
NOMINAL PRICES MERELY.
THREE-DOLLAR VELVETEEN at $1 25 per yard.
TWO-DOLLAR VELVETEENS at 65c. and 75c. per yard.
BONNET and MANTILLA VELVETS cheap.

KID GLOVES,

One and two BUTTONS, at 50c., 75c., 87c., $1 and $1 25.
NEW CROWN GLOVE, in one, two, three, four, five and six buttons, FULL ASSORTMENT. Also, full line with CUFFS, imported for the

HOLIDAYS!!

All our HATS and BONNETS marked down 25 per cent.
FELT HATS, 25c., 50c., 75c. These have been sold from $1 to $2.
All our MISSES', INFANTS' and LADIES' SUITS, CLOAKS and UNDER-GARMENTS marked down.
OUR
FUR STOCK
WILL REPAY AN INSPECTION.
EDWARD RIDLEY & SON,
Nos. 306, 311, 311½ Grand, Nos. 62, 64, 66, 68 and 70
FIFTH BLOCK EAST FROM THE BOWERY.

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

At the
GREAT EAST-SIDE ESTABLISHMENT.
E. RIDLEY & SON,
GRAND-ST., NEW-YORK.
GENTS FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.
FINE LINE OF BOWS, SCARFS AND NECK-TIES.
GENTS' KID GLOVES, $1 pair up.
100 new styles of WINTER GLOVES and CUFFS.
UNDER-SHIRTS and DRAWERS at 50c., 75c., $1 up.
HOSIERY, SOCKS, SHIRTS, DRIVING-GLOVES, CUFFS, COLLARS.
LINED KID GLOVES, $1 25 pair.
BUCKSKIN GLOVES at 25c. pair.
Edward Ridley & Son,
Nos. 306, 311, 311½ Grand, Nos. 62, 64, 66, 68 and 70
FIFTH BLOCK EAST FROM THE BOWERY.

AT JACKSON'S,

CORNER OF BROADWAY AND WAVERLEY-PLACE.
Useful Holiday Gifts
300 PIECES
BLACK ALPACAS
FROM 38 CENTS PER YARD.
VELVETEENS, Silk Finish,
FROM 62.
PRICE GUARANTEED BELOW PRESENT GOLD COST OF IMPORTATION.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

FOUNTAIN'S INDIA STORE
NEW GOODS IN ENDLESS VARIETIES.
OPPOSITE WALLACK'S, UPSTAIRS.

BRONZES, SILKS, SHAWLS, CHINA, &c.

BEAUTIFUL AND SUBSTANTIAL
HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
GOLD, SILVER AND IVORY-MOUNTED
WALKING CANES.
The largest, best and cheapest assortment in the City can be found at
A. COX'S SONS, No. 265 Maiden-lane.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR WRAPPING PAPER AND TWINE.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 23, 1871.
SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this Department until the 24th day of January, 1872, at 12 o'clock, noon, for furnishing WRAPPING PAPER AND TWINE for the use of the Post-offices in the United States for one year from and after the 1st day of February, 1872, of the following description, namely:
First—Manila, capable of weighing eight ounces avoirdupois weight, to be graduated down to quarter ounces. Of these it is supposed that 1,000 will be wanted.
Second—Balances of the same capacity, graduated by the metric or gramme system. Of this class 100 may be required.
Third—Balances capable of weighing four pounces, avoirdupois weight, to be graduated to half ounces. Of this class it is supposed that 200 will be wanted.
Perfect accuracy, strength and durability will be required in the Balances to be furnished.
Samples of each description of Balances must accompany each bid, and the bidder who may obtain the contract will be required to furnish Balances of a quality in all respects equal to the sample.
Each balance must be well and securely packed in a box for transportation, and delivered, free of all expense, to the Bank Agency, Washington, D. C.
Each bidder must furnish with his proposal guarantees of ability to comply with his bid; and a certificate from a Postmaster that such guarantors are reliable persons.
Two sufficient sureties will be required to a contract.
Awards will be made for each article separately if deemed most advantageous to the Department.
A failure to furnish promptly any article contracted for, or an attempt to impose upon the Department articles inferior, in the opinion of the Postmaster-General, to those contracted for, will be considered sufficient cause for the forfeiture of the contract.
Bids not made in conformity with this advertisement will not be considered.
The Postmaster-General reserves the right to reject any or all bids, if in his opinion it is required by the interests of the Department.
Proposals must be indorsed on the envelope "Proposals for Wrapping paper," or "Proposals for Twine," and addressed to the First Assistant Postmaster-General, Washington, D. C.
JNO. A. J. CRESWELL,
Postmaster-General.

PROPOSALS FOR LETTER BALANCES.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 23, 1871.
Sealed Proposals will be received at this Department until the 24th day of January, 1872, at 12 noon, for furnishing Letter Balances for the use of the Post-offices in the United States for one year from and after the 1st day of February, 1872, of the following description, namely:
First—Balances capable of weighing eight ounces avoirdupois weight, to be graduated down to quarter ounces. Of these it is supposed that 1,000 will be wanted.
Second—Balances of the same capacity, graduated by the metric or gramme system. Of this class 100 may be required.
Third—Balances capable of weighing four pounces, avoirdupois weight, to be graduated to half ounces. Of this class it is supposed that 200 will be wanted.
Perfect accuracy, strength and durability will be required in the Balances to be furnished.
Samples of each description of Balances must accompany each bid, and the bidder who may obtain the contract will be required to furnish Balances of a quality in all respects equal to the sample.
Each balance must be well and securely packed in a box for transportation, and delivered, free of all expense, to the Bank Agency, Washington, D. C.
Each bidder must furnish with his proposal guarantees of ability to comply with his bid; and a certificate from a Postmaster that such guarantors are reliable persons.
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Bids not made in conformity with this advertisement will not be considered.
The Postmaster-General reserves the right to reject any or all bids, if in his opinion it is required by the interests of the Department.
Proposals must be indorsed on the envelope, "Proposals for Letter Balances," and addressed to the First Assistant Postmaster-General, Washington, D. C.
JNO. A. J. CRESWELL,
Postmaster-General.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

RUSSIAN SLEIGH-BELLS.
The only real ones in the City.
Horse blankets and fur robes in every variety.
Fine harness, all grades.
At the old-established English importing house.
R. BASTELLI'S,
No. 6 Warren-st., corner of College-place.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.
LINDAUER'S DOUBLE RAMS'S FOOT Lantern, Clarence and Harness, $100 LESS THAN MY USUAL PRICE if purchased for presents.
HAM'S NO. 10 EAST 4TH-ST., NEW-YORK.

SLEIGHS, SLEIGHS, SLEIGHS.
300 sleighs, all styles, pony, six coast, swell, Portland, &c., from $50 up; the largest assortment in the City. Rubber bells, &c. Repairing. Factory Opposite.
WM. H. GRAY, Nos. 20 and 22 Wooster-st.

SLEIGH-BELLS AND HORSE-BLANKETS.
In large assortments at HARMER, HAYES & CO.,
No. 73 Bowling-st.

ELEGANT PORTLAND SLEIGHS
By KIMBALL and other first-class makers.
S. E. BATES,
No. 1,805 Broadway, near 60th-st.

STIVERS' SLEIGHS.—AN ASSORTMENT of Portland and Albany pony sleighs and cutters, fine six-coast sleighs; one left own make celebrated Pony sleigh, with rumble, (same as sent East of Stuart Scotland. Have in process my renowned Boston Speed and Style cutters, that can finish to taste of purchasers. R. M. STIVERS, Manufacturer, Nos. 144 to 154 East 31st-st., between 3d and 4th avs.

FREDERICK S. WOOD, NO. 210 AND 221 West 19th-st., has in process of construction new styles of family and first-class livery coaches and carriages, which may be finished to suit taste of purchasers. Also prepared to take orders for his light road and pleasure wagons, which in style, quality of material and workmanship are without superior.

BREWSTER & CO., OPERGOOMS-ST., Roller at their warerooms, 8th-av., corner of 14th-st., a large stock of elegant carriages and road wagons. EXCLUSIVE USE OF THEIR NEW MANUFACTURE, and of the best quality only. SOLE AGENTS FOR CALLOW'S LONDON WHIPS.

SLEIGHS, CARRIAGES, HARNESS, Sells at extremely low prices; unexpected examination solicited; different styles, numbering 400; rented for season; where desired, privilege of purchase. WITTE'S Manufactory, Fulton and Nevins sts., Brooklyn.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR PAPER FOR THE PUBLIC PRINTING.

OFFICE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL PRINTER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18, 1871.
In pursuance of the provisions of the fourth section of an act entitled "An act to further regulate the printing of the laws and the public work, and to provide Paper for the Public Printing," approved on the 27th of July, 1868, sealed proposals will be received until Tuesday, the 16th day of January, 1872, at 10 o'clock A. M., for furnishing the paper for the public printing, and the files of the year 1873, and the said proposals to be opened before, and the awards of contracts to be made by the Joint Committee of Congress on Public Printing, to the lowest and best bidder for the interests of the Government, who reserves to himself the right to reject any and all bids as in his judgment of the best interests of the Government may dictate.
The subjoined schedule specifies, as nearly as can be ascertained, the quantity of each kind of paper that will be required, but the contracts will be entered into for all that may be needed during the year and no more.
CLASS 1.—UNCALENDERED PRINTING PAPER.
30,000 reams of fine printing paper, uncalendered, measuring 24x38 inches, and weighing forty-five pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
CLASS 2.—CALENDERED PRINTING PAPER.
15,000 reams of superfine calendered Printing Paper measuring 24x38 inches, and weighing fifty-three pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
1,000 reams superfine calendered Printing Paper, measuring 22x34 inches, and weighing forty-four pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
1,000 reams superfine calendered Printing Paper, measuring 24x28 inches, and weighing seventy pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
500 reams superfine Printing Paper, super-calendered, hard-sized, 24x32 inches, and weighing sixty pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
CLASS 3.—SIZED AND CALENDERED PRINTING PAPER.
2,000 reams superfine Printing Paper, hard-sized and super-calendered, measuring 24x32 inches, and weighing forty-five pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
1,000 reams super-calendered and super-calendered, measuring 24x30 inches, and weighing thirty pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
1,000 reams super-sized and super-calendered, measuring 24x30 inches, and weighing fifty pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
CLASS 4.—MAP PAPER.
5,000 reams superfine Map Paper, sized and calendered, of such sizes as may be required, corresponding in weight with paper measuring 19x24 inches, and weighing twenty-one pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
CLASS 5.—WRITING PAPERS.—(To be of any required weight.)
5,000 reams Quarto Post, 10x16 inches.
4,000 reams Flat Cap, 13x16½, or 14x17 inches.
3,250 reams Double Cap, 16½x26, or 17x33 inches.
2,500 reams Demy, 16x20½ inches.
2,000 reams Double Demy, 20½x32 inches.
2,000 reams Folio Post, 17x22 inches.
1,000 reams Double Folio Post, 22x34 inches.
1,000 reams Demy, 16x20½ inches.
150 reams Medium, 19x24 inches.
1,000 reams Double Cap, 17x28 inches.
300 reams Double Cap, 17x28 inches, blue.
500 reams blue Quarto Post, [illegible] inches.
250 reams yellow Double Cap, [illegible] inches.
500 reams buff Double Cap, [illegible] inches.
50 reams gold Envelope Paper, 18x24 inches.
CLASS 7.—PAPER FOR POST-OFFICE BLANKS (engine-sized).
600 reams, measuring 22x28 inches, weighing forty-two pounds per ream.
800 reams, measuring 22x28 inches, weighing fifty-two pounds per ream.
400 reams, measuring 20x30 inches, weighing forty-six pounds per ream.
500 reams, measuring 19x24 inches, weighing thirty pounds per ream.
CLASS 8.—SIZED AND CALENDERED TINTED PRINTING PAPER.
800 reams superfine cream-tinted, super-calendered, 22x28½ inches, weighing forty pounds to the ream of 480 sheets.
1,000 reams superfine cream-tinted, super-calendered, 25½x30½ inches, weighing fifty-five pounds to the ream of 480 sheets.
1,000 reams superfine cream-tinted, super-calendered 24x38 inches, weighing seventy pounds to the ream of 480 sheets.
1,000 reams superfine cream-tinted, super-calendered, 20x38 inches, weighing fifty pounds to the ream of 500 sheets.
Proposals will be received for the whole quantity, or for any portion not less than one-fourth of the papers designated in Classes 1 and 2, and for the whole quantity, or any portion of the papers designated in Class 3, being not less than one-sixth of the whole. Samples of the qualities of the papers required in the several classes, will be furnished upon application at this office, and the successful bidders will be required strictly to conform to the samples furnished.
Each class will be considered separately, and be subject to a separate contract, but bidders may offer for one or more of the classes in the same proposal.
No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by bond, with security to the approval of a United States Judge or Attorney in the penalty of $10,000, that the bidder, or bidders, if more than one, their proposal shall be accepted, shall furnish the articles proposed for; and each proposal must be accompanied by satisfactory evidence that the person or persons making said proposal are manufacturers of, or dealers in, the the description of paper which he or they propose to furnish.
All the paper in the several classes must be delivered at the Government Printing Office, in the City of Washington, in good order, free from all and every extra charge or expense, and subject to the inspection, count, weight and test of the Congressional Printer, and be in all respects satisfactory.
The supplying of an inferior article in any of the classes, or a failure to supply the quantity required at any time, will be considered a violation of the contract.
Blank proposals will be furnished upon application at this Office, and no proposal will be considered which does not conform exactly thereto.
Proposals will be indorsed on the envelope "Proposals for Paper," and addressed to the Joint Committee on Public Printing, either to the care of Hon. H. R. Anthony, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Printing; Hon. John Beatty, Chairman of the House Committee on Printing; or A. E. Clapp, Congressional Printer, Washington, D. C.
By direction of the Joint Committee of Congress on Public Printing.
A. E. CLAPP,
Congressional Printer.

DANCING.

A. HOFWERTER'S
CLASSES FOR DANCING
All meet at No. 212 Bleecker-st., corner 10th-st.
Classes for ladies, gentlemen or children.
Morning, afternoon and evening classes.
For particulars send for circular.

DE GARMO'S DANCING ACADEMY.
NO. 23 6TH-AV., CORNER 16TH-ST.
NEW CLASSES CONSTANTLY FORMING.
PARTICULARS IN CIRCULAR.

LEGAL NOTICES.

SUPREME COURT—KINGS COUNTY.—GEORGE DIXON, ABRAHAM DIXON, and EDWARD JOHNSON, plaintiffs, against THOMAS RODRIGUES, executor of the estate of Mrs. A. McMasters, deceased, defendants.—Action for a money demand on contract.—(Complaint not served.)—To the defendant: You are hereby summoned and required to answer the complaint in this action, which will be filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, at the Court-house in the City of Brooklyn, and to serve a copy of your answer to the said complaint on the subscriber at his office at No. 32 Pine-street, in the City of New-York, within twenty days after the service of this summons on you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer the said complaint within the time aforesaid, the plaintiffs in this action will take judgment against you for the sums of seventeen hundred dollars, with interest from the 20th day of September, 1871, besides the costs and disbursements of this action.—Dated, New-York, Dec. 1, 1871.
E. H. HUNTLEY, Plaintiffs' Attorney,
No. 32 Pine-street.
The complaint in the above action was filed in the office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, on the 18th day of December, 1871.
E. H. HUNTLEY, Plaintiffs' Attorney.
61 law7w

AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY.—NILSSON—IN TROVATORE.
LAST NIGHT BUT TWO OF THE
TROUPE'S ENGAGEMENT.
THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING, Dec. 26, at 8 P. M.,
Mr. TROVATORE.
Mme. CHRISTINA NILSSON (for the second time) as Tow'rist.....LEONORA
Miss ANNIE LOUISE CARY.....AZUCENA
Signor F. BRIGNOLI (his second appearance).....MANRICO
Signor BARTOLINI (his second appearance).....CONDE DE LUNA
Mme. MARIMPIETRI, Musical Director and Conductor.
WEDNESDAY, 27th, (last night but one)—LA TRAVIATA.
FRIDAY, 29th, (last night)—MARTHA.
SATURDAY, Dec. 30, at 12, doors open at 11½.
GRAND FAREWELL MATINEE—MIGNON!
Seats for above at the Academy, (also at No. 701 and 114 Broadway.

FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.
DIVORCE!!
THE GREAT DRAMA OF THE TIMES.
SEVENTEENTH WEEK.
NEW-YEAR'S DAY A SPECIAL DIVORCE MATINEE AT 1½ O'CLOCK.
Seats secured for any date in advance.

NEW-YORK CIRCUS.
14th-st., opposite Academy of Music.
L. B. LENT.....DIRECTOR
HOLIDAY MATINEES EVERY DAY AT 2½.
EVENING SCENES UNEQUALED TO-DAY.
Superb ATTRACTIONS for CHRISTMAS WEEK.
BRILLIANT SPECTACULAR SCENES,
UNITED with the CHARMS of the CIRCUS.
ALL THE GREAT RIDERS OF THE
AND ALL THE FEARLESS PERFORMERS.
GORGEOUS HOLIDAY PANTOMIME OF
GOODY TWO SHOES
AND THE MAGIC HEN;
or,
THE GIANT OF THE CRIMSON CASTLE.
THIS BRILLIANT GALAXY OF NOVELTIES
Will be performed every AFTERNOON and EVENING during the Holiday season, with elegant circus entertainments.

NEW-YORK CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC.
Open daily from 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.
NEW CLASSES for BEGINNERS and CLASSES for ADVANCED pupils now forming for instruction in all branches of vocal and instrumental music, harmony, composition and counterpoint, &c., &c.
Also, PRIVATE LESSONS DAY AND EVENING.
APPLICATION for ADMISSION must be made at the General Conservatory offices,
No. 620 BROADWAY, near 12th-st., over MUSIC STORE.
(The Branch at No. 23 6th-av. has removed.)
The MOLLENHAUER CONSERVATORY, formerly in Schermerhorn-st., has been incorporated in the
BROOKLYN BRANCH,
NOS. 102, 104, and 106 COURT-ST., NEAR STATE.

FIREMEN'S BALL.
THE FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL BALL
OF THE
WIDOWS' AND ORPHAN

CHRISTMAS.

Continued from First Page.

which kind pastors, superintendents and teachers displayed in trying to make their scholars happy by cheerful holiday greetings, and more substantial reminders of their regard. Nearly all the Sunday-school rooms of the different churches throughout the City were beautifully decorated with evergreen, holly and other Winter-greens, chief among the attractions being huge Christmas trees laden with a large assortment of choice presents and playthings. To the eyes of the juveniles, the trees presented a more captivating appearance than all the rest of the decorations. There was hardly any school without its trees, and as a consequence there were thousands of children who were made glad by numerous gifts. It was a sight to see little ones, scarcely able to toddle, emerge from church-doors, with their hands and arms filled with toys, candy-bags and other articles, and their eyes beaming with delight at their prizes.

The exercises at the Lexington-avenue M. E. Sunday-school were exceedingly interesting. The children were presented with books, knives, dolls, baskets of fruit and candies. The Superintendent, Mr. ROBERT SAVERY, Mrs. MORGAN, the Female Superintendent, and the Pastor, R. M. STRATTON, assisted by the officers and teachers of the school, together with their friends and Trustees of the Church succeeded in making all happy. The school presented Mr. ROBERT J. JOHNSTON, the chorister of the Church and school, with a beautiful baton, heavily mounted in gold. His daughter, Miss SARAH JOHNSTON, was the recipient of a very handsome writing-desk, and the sexton was given a very nice sum of money.

CHRISTMAS IN OTHER PLACES.

How the Day was Observed in Washington—Pleasant Weather and a Quiet Time.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The city has resolved itself into a condition of utter quiet to-day, and under a bright sun, with an atmosphere as balmy as April, Christmas has passed without the slightest evidence of Holiday, beyond the entire suspension of public and private business. The distracting reports of fire-arms and fire-works, an absurd southern custom, has at times been hideous. In the Episcopal and Catholic Churches Christmas services were held, and in several of them the music was a leading attraction. Nearly all the political people have left the city, and barring the festivities of New-Year's Day Washington will be nearly devoid of interest, until the 8th of January next.

Suspension of Business in the Coal Regions for the Day—Welsh Celebration of the Festival.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

SCRANTON, Penn., Dec. 25.—Business was totally suspended in this city to-day. The churches were filled to overflowing at an early hour in the morning, and continued thronged the entire day. The streets have been crowded with people, and nothing has occurred to mar the festivities.

The Welsh portion of our community are holding a grand Eisteddfod, which takes place every Christmas. At these annual gatherings prizes are awarded to the best essayists, elocutionists, readers, poets and singers, and are participated in wholly by men employed in or about the mines. Their hall has been packed throughout the day. A similar gathering has taken place at Plymouth, in this county.

The Day in Cincinnati, St. Louis, Poughkeepsie, &c.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 25.—Christmas has been unusually quiet.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 25.—The day has been observed with unusual generality. All business was suspended. There has been a good deal of carousing and much drunkenness, resulting in brawls, in which knives, razors and pistols were freely used, but no very serious harm was done.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Christmas was observed here by a general suspension of business. There were impressive services in the Episcopal churches, and to-night there is an entertainment in the German Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Day in Brooklyn.

The weather, yesterday, was all that could be desired for pleasure-seekers or the devotees of religion, and the streets of Brooklyn were filled from morning till night with both classes. The streets resounded with the music of fife and drum and trumpet, as target companies paraded, or urchins made the neighborhood almost hideous with the tootings of horns. In the German quarters of the city the din was deafening at times, and the fun was of a very rough character.

The church-goers gathered in their respective sanctuaries about 10½ o'clock, and listened to discourses appropriate to the occasion, and to music grand and solemn. The decorations of the churches were beautiful and arranged with most exquisite taste. Evergreens and flowers were displayed in profusion, and the richer the congregation, the more elaborate were the displays. St. Ann's, on the Heights, was probably most profusely decorated, and vied in this respect with the Church of the Holy Trinity. Of the Catholic churches, that of St. Charles Borromeo was decidedly the handsomest, though in the musical services St. Peter's was understood to be superior.

At St. Ann's Church the musical programme included the Adesti Fidelis, Cantique de Noel, Grand Venite, Grand Te Deum, Agnes Dei, Gloria in Excelsis, by Mrs. CHRISTIANSON, Mr. C. IVES, A. C. LORETTE, and J. M. LORETTE, organist. At the Church of the Holy Trinity the programme included Venite Exultemus, Te Deum Laudamus, Benedictus, Kyrie Eleison, Gloria in Excelsis, &c. In the Catholic churches the musical performances were on a grand scale, and were listened to by a large auditory.

The Day on Long Island.

The day was very generally observed on Long Island. Services were held in all of the Episcopal and Catholic churches. At Jamaica G. WILLIAMSON SMITH, Chaplain of the United States Navy, delivered an address at Grace Church, which was beautifully decorated. His text was Luke, second chapter, second and twelfth verses. After explaining the contrasts of these two passages, and the manifold blessings conferred on mankind by the birth of the Savior, he proceeded to condemn the present wandering of philosophy from the teachings of Christ, and concluded by an allusion to the genial happiness and good-will pervading all Christian families at Christmas time. At St. George's Church, Flushing, Rev. J. CARPENTER SMITH preached. The church was handsomely decorated. At St. John's Church, Hunter's Point, services were conducted by the new pastor, Dr. MULHOLLAND. In the evening the children of the Baptist Sunday-school met at the East-avenue Baptist Church, Long Island City. Singing, addresses and other appropriate exercises took place. A Christmas tree, well filled, was enjoyed by the little folks.

The Day in New-Jersey.

The business establishments of New-Jersey's principal cities and towns were closed yesterday, the newspapers suspended publication, and the day was occupied with home and social feasting and festivity. Horns and whistles were more than ever before the order of the day. The warmth and brightness of the day encouraged thousands of urchins to the infliction of these horrors upon the people. The churches were, of course, upon so cheerful a day, well attended everywhere. Seldom before for many years past had there been such large crowds at the churches. In Newark the Catholic Cathedral was the "centre of attraction" to Catholic worshipers. High mass was celebrated at 10½ o'clock. The music was rendered by the regular Cathedral choir with volunteer chorus, under the direction of the organist, Prof. WM. SCHMIDT. MOZART'S Twelfth Mass was sung, the solos being sustained by Mrs. MCGINNIS, soprano; Mr. KIONENBURG, tenor, and Mr. MULLEN, baritone. Vespers was sung at 3½.

The decorations of the Cathedral were remarkable for their tasteful and impressive arrangement. Some fine pieces of statuary were unveiled at the altar at the morning service.

At St. James' Church, and at St. John's, MERCADANTE'S Mass, in D Minor, was given under direction of the organists.

At Trinity Episcopal Church the music was given by a double quartette, of which Miss HEWES and Miss ORTON sang the soprano parts, Miss ILSLEY contralto, Mr. HUGHES and Mr. BENEDICT tenors, Mr. MERCER and Mr. POINIER bassi. The selections comprised the best works of LAMBILLOTTE, MOZART, MILLARD and MENDELSSOHN. At Grace Church, the House of Prayer and Christ Church, rich musical selections were given and the decorations were elaborate.

The oratorio of the Messiah was rendered at St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church, under the auspices of the Mendelssohn Union, with the following artists: Mme. ANNA BISHOP, soprano; Mrs. JENNIE KEMPTON, alto; Mr. GEO. SIMPSON, tenor, and Mr. THEODORE THOMAS, basso.

In Jersey City, St. Mark's, St. Matthew's and Grace Episcopal Churches held services which were well attended, and the Catholic churches were crowded with worshipers. At St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church the organist, Mr. J. WHITE, conducted the musical exercises, with Mrs. J. KELLY, soprano; W. F. WHITE, tenor; Mrs. STEINFIELD, contralto; Mr. FOGG, baritone, and Mr. FLEMING, basso.

Besides the religious observances of the day, which were, of course, of much the same character in Hoboken, Elizabeth, Paterson and Trenton as in the cities mentioned, there was a great variety of entertainments, at which old and young joined in making merry. Skating parks were well patronized; charitable societies gave sumptuous dinners to their dependents; the almshouses, jails and reformatories were for once cheerful as the rest of the world.

The employes of the Jersey City *Evening Journal* had their Christmas dinner at Cooper Hall, yesterday afternoon. Over 250 newsboys sat down to dinner in the large assembly hall at 1 o'clock. Two hours afterward the guests took dinner in the ball-room below. After the cloth was removed toasts were drunk and speeches were made by Major T. K. PANGBORN, the editor of the *Journal*, Judge B. F. RANDOLPH, Judge RANKIN and others. It was the second annual dinner given by the proprietors of the *Journal* to their friends and employes. Last year the company numbered altogether about 300; this year not less than 450 were present.

Christmas at Bellevue Hospital.

The merry Christmas brought good cheer to the inmates of Bellevue Hospital, and the day was more than ordinarily observed. In the morning, services were held in the chapel, after which the patients and attachés were sumptuously regaled with a bounteous supply of turkey, chicken, mince-pie and other delicacies provided by charitable benefactors. The medical staff of the Hospital sat down to an elegant repast presided over by Warden BRENNAN. In the evening, a few hours were devoted to dancing, the amphitheatre being used for that purpose, the festivities being participated in by the house physicians, the nurses, the convalescent patients and a number of invited guests.

Christmas Scenes in the Streets.

The streets and avenues were filled with people, and the fine Summer-like weather had the effect of bringing out numerous pleasure-seekers. There was an absence of the usual display of fantastical exhibition, such as are peculiar to Thanksgiving Day, but in place of these were many target processions. Boys paraded in large numbers, and there were companies seen marching to various parks and public places to enjoy themselves in shooting and other kinds of amusement.

Christmas Sport on the Ice.

There was some amusement for skaters at the Central Park ponds yesterday, but it only lasted a few hours, and could hardly be called good skating, as the ice, under the influence of the warm weather, kept softening constantly, and showed grooves and fissures wherever any crowd gathered. Notwithstanding the unavoidable drawbacks, the sport was heartily enjoyed, and the temptation of having a few hours fun brought large numbers of both sexes to the lakes.

Valuable Christmas Gift—A Prisoner Set at Liberty.

Mr. NEPHEW, a prisoner confined in Ludlow-street Jail, for failure to pay his fine for neglect of duty as a member of the Ninth Regiment, N. G., had his fine remitted by Gen. SHALER. He was still held on account of his inability to pay the arrest fees of the Marshal. Yesterday, Deputy GARDNER, of the Jail, got up a subscription, and obtained enough money to secure the young man's discharge from prison, and a balance of $5, which was given to him to make a merry Christmas with.

Christmas Murder.

Last night, EDWARD CARROLL and his brother RICHARD went into the liquor saloon of JAMES MCCARTNEY, No. 528 Eighth-avenue where they became engaged in a quarrel with MCCARTNEY, who put them out of the place. They returned in a few minutes afterwards and began an assault upon MCCARTNEY, who ran behind his bar for protection, and seizing a club, struck EDWARD CARROLL a blow on the head. CARROLL at once left the saloon with his brother, and returned to his home, No. 210 West Thirty-seventh-street, where he died in a few minutes from the effects of the blow. MCCARTNEY was immediately arrested, and locked up in the Twentieth Precinct Station-house to await the result of an inquest to be held by Coroner HERRMAN. The deceased was forty years of age, and has heretofore been considered a reputable citizen.

A Christmas Riot.

Yesterday morning a fight took place on the corner of Fifty-ninth-street and First-avenue between a number of men. In the mêlée BARTHOLEMEW BATTY, of No. 1,077 First-avenue, received a blow of a slung-shot, which felled him to the ground. CHARLES BAUSCH, of No. 1,000 Third-avenue, got badly beaten and cut about the head and body. The remainder of the rioters escaped. BATTY and BAUSCH were arrested and taken before Justice BIXBY, in the Yorkville Police Court, yesterday, and were discharged, the Justice considering that they had suffered sufficiently for their folly.

THE WEATHER.

Events and Probabilities.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25—7 P. M.—The barometer has changed but little since Sunday afternoon in the Southern and Gulf States, and partially cloudy and clear weather has very generally prevailed, with fog on the coasts, during the night. The low barometer which was in Western Illinois has moved north-eastward to Maine. The pressure has fallen in the Middle States. Fog and cloud have prevailed from New-Jersey to Maine, and westward to Michigan. Northerly winds and snow are reported on the southern extremity of Lake Erie and Michigan. The pressure has risen during the day with falling temperature from Wisconsin to New-York. This afternoon's reports from San Francisco are not received, but the storm of Sunday is probably entirely cleared away.

PROBABILITIES.

The barometer will probably rise very generally on Tuesday east of the Mississippi River and clear weather prevail with low temperature north and west of the Ohio Valley. Mild and foggy weather in the Southern and Gulf States; cloudy weather continue in the Lower Lakes, with falling temperature; fog on the Middle and East Atlantic coasts to-night, followed by clearing weather on Tuesday.

Dangerous winds are not anticipated for this evening.

Storms in this State and the West.

SHARON SPRINGS, N. Y., Dec. 25.—There was a terrible gale of wind Saturday night, which carried off the newly-erected steeple of the Methodist Church, and unroofed other buildings.

DUBUQUE, Iowa, Dec. 25.—The recent snow-storm was very severe in Northern Iowa, blocking all the roads. With one exception, there has been no trains from the West into Dubuque since Friday last, until this evening. The snow is effectually blocking the roads and breaking the telegraph wires in every direction.

OMAHA, Dec. 25.—Rawlins Station reports that no trains have passed either way since the 21st, and no prospect of any passing for two or three days. Laramie Station reports that no trains have passed there since Saturday. Cheyenne reports three trains lying there for the West.

City Meteorological Report.

The following observations show the temperature in this City yesterday:

Temperature.	7 A.M.	12 M.	3 P.M.	6 P.M.
Degrees Fahrenheit	37	43	40	40
Stand of barometer in inch.	29.98	30.00	..	29.90

The Rome, Ga., Municipal Election.

ROME, Ga., Dec. 25.—The municipal election to-day resulted in the choice of the entire Republican ticket, as follows: H. D. Coleman, Mayor; T. M. Gates, W. P. Mapp, R. T. Hoyt, J. W. Noble, C. H. Samuel and F. J. Stone, Aldermen. The election passed off quietly, there being no disturbance of any kind. A full vote was polled. There is general rejoicing.

A Riot in Chelsea, Mass.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—Early this morning, in Chelsea, while quelling a disturbance, City Marshal DRURY was struck in the face with a brick, and was stabbed several times in the neck. He shot one of the rioters—SHELTON—wounding him seriously in the neck. A dozen of the rioters were arrested.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

Accident on the Hartford and Erie Railroad.

From the Boston Journal, Dec. 25.

The Saturday night passengers from New-York for Boston, by the Hartford and Erie route, had ample opportunity to display their patience and good nature, and also had a narrow escape from becoming the victims of another railroad horror. Owing to the storm of rain and wind Saturday night the steamer did not leave New-York until 2 o'clock on Sunday morning, arriving in New-London at 10 o'clock Sunday forenoon. After sundry minor delays the train reached Putnam soon after 1 o'clock in the afternoon. After leaving that station all passed quietly until the passengers were startled by the whistle for "down brakes," as the train was running between the East Douglass and Ironstone stations, about one mile from the latter. The signal of danger was quickly followed by several heavy jars, as though the cars were running over a timber or some similar obstruction, and when the train was brought to a stand-still the cause of the trouble was seen to be a large round boulder of some 300 or 400 pounds weight, which was left between the rails. It appeared that this stone was washed down from the sides of a deep cut by the rains of Saturday night, and, resting in the centre of the track was discovered by the engineer as he came close upon it by rounding a short curve. The whistle was immediately sounded, but the train was dashing down a steep grade under a full headway, and almost instantly the engine struck the rock, which lay from a foot to eighteen inches above the level of the ties. It splintered the cowcatcher, and, passing under it, carried away the brakes and ash-pan, and lodging upon the forward axle of the tender, was carried for several rods, when the axle broke and the stone was bowled along underneath the entire train, consisting of a truck car and a baggage, smoking and passenger car. In its passage it carried away all of the brakes but two, and was left some fifty or seventy-five rods from where it was struck. As the brakes were powerless, the train swept on some fifty rods further before it was brought to a stand-still, with the forward wheels of the tender thrown from the track. It was little short of miraculous that the whole train was not thrown from the track, in which event the result must have proved fearful, for while the train was passing over the obstruction, the roadway lay upon an embankment twenty-five or thirty feet in height, at the foot of which was a pond of water. After some two hours delay in getting the tender upon the track, the train was moved very slowly along to Blackstone, a distance of six miles, where the passengers were transferred to other cars, another engine was provided, and the train reached this city at 7¼ in the evening, twelve and a half hours behind time.

Statistics of the Pennsylvania Coal Trade.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* of yesterday says: "The Reading Railroad Company, which entered on its business and financial year on the 1st inst., reports a total tonnage for the week ending on the 16th inst. of 99,061 tons, and for its new year to the same date of 223,984 tons, against 244,675 tons to corresponding time last year—a decrease of 20,691 tons. The Schuylkill Canal shipped for the same week 1,955 tons, and for the year to same date 12,384 tons, against 35,470 tons to corresponding time last year—a decrease of 23,136 tons. The Lehigh Valley Railroad, which also began its year of account on the 1st inst., reports a tonnage for the week ending on the 16th inst. of 73,555 tons, and for the new year to the same date 164,836 tons, against 173,860 tons to corresponding date last year—a decrease of 8,974 tons. The following-named companies make their business year correspond with the calendar year, consequently continue their statements of even weeks up to the end of this month. For the week ending on the 16th inst. the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company reports a tonnage of 62,279 tons, and for the year of 1,803,273 tons, against 2,344,428 tons to corresponding date last year—a decrease of 541,155 tons. The tonnage from Shamokin for the week was 9,767 tons, and for the year 614,823 tons, against 474,107 tons to corresponding time last year, showing an increase of 140,716 tons. The shipments by the Central Railroad of New-Jersey for the week was 36,467 tons, and for the season 2,075,363 tons, against 1,872,071 tons to corresponding time last year, an increase of 203,150 tons. The Pennsylvania Coal Company reports a tonnage for the week of 15,282 tons, and for the year 765,544 tons, against 1,085,475 tons to corresponding date last year, a decrease of 319,926 tons. The Delaware and Hudson Company reports a tonnage for the week of 14,243 tons, and for the year, 1,764,695 tons, against 2,235,083 tons to same time last year, showing a decrease of 470,388 tons. Adding to these reports the production of some other sources of small supply of coal, and deducting the tonnage doubled on different roads, we find the anthracite tonnage for the week ending with the 16th inst., amounted to 144,895 tons, and for the year, to 15,045,594 tons, against 15,699,139 tons to the same date last year, being a decrease in the tonnage of anthracite coal of 653,545 tons. The production of bituminous coal for the week was 32,675 tons, and for the year 2,133,086 tons, against 1,663,023 tons to corresponding time last year—an increase of 460,033 tons. The total of current year of all kinds of coal for the week was 177,570 tons, and for the year 17,178,665 tons, against 17,376,152 tons to corresponding time last year, showing a decrease of 197,487 tons. The trade is nearly or quite over for this season. At a meeting of the Board of Arbitration of the Lehigh region, on the 20th inst., it was unanimously agreed to continue the rate of wages paid in 1871 for the year 1872. Coal prices are firm in all the large markets, but not quotably higher. A good deal of anxiety is manifested as to the next year's trade, and an interview between representatives of the W. B. A. in the Schuylkill region and the carrying companies, we understand, is appointed for to-morrow in this city. One suggestion is $2 75 as a basis for wages, sliding down to $2 25 as a minimum. It is confidently relied upon that the Reading Railroad will do its part in commanding for the region its full share of coal production for 1872."

Hotel Burned in Illinois—Several Persons Injured.

A special telegram from Aurora, Ill., to the Chicago *Evening Journal* gives the following brief account of the burning of a hotel in that place on Saturday morning last:

"The Huntoon House, a three-story brick building located on the west side in this city, was destroyed by fire, this morning, in the midst of a drenching rain, between 5 and 6 o'clock. There were about forty persons in the house at the time, and such headway had the fire made when it was discovered that scarce any time was given to spread the alarm, even to the inmates of the several rooms, and it is feared that several persons perished in the flames, though the real facts cannot be learned at this writing. Among those injured in jumping from the building are CARL G. METZER, Clerk of the Aurora Court of Common Pleas, who, in falling from the third story on his head and shoulder, is so badly hurt his life is despaired of. J. L. SCOTT, of Campton, had his ankle dislocated. WARREN ASHLEY, of Plato, leg broken, and a Mr. FOOTE, a tailor in the employ of C. H. REEVES, had both ankles dislocated. The building was owned by Mrs. E. HUNTOON, who loses $10,000. No insurance. The house was kept by J. C. DOWLING, late of Mendota, who loses in furniture and personal effects, $5,000. No insurance. The fire was first discovered by the colored porter in the rooms above the office of the hotel, but its origin is unknown.

Rev. Wm. R. Alger's Health.

The Boston *Advertiser* of yesterday says that there is now but little doubt that Rev. WM. R. ALGER will ere long be restored to complete mental and physical health. On the other hand, the Boston *Journal* of the same date says: "Rev. Mr. ALGER remains at Somerville, and though he is somewhat improved, his condition is such as to preclude the hope that he will soon, if ever, be enabled to conduct the services of the society over which he has ministered with such success.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

JAMES MILLER, a Nashville grocer, committed suicide, yesterday, by shooting himself.

On Saturday night WM. DALTON, who was arrested in Boston for an assault with an ax, committed suicide in the police station.

Twelve buildings were burned in Salina, Kansas, on Sunday. Loss is from $60,000 to $75,000.

It is denied that small-pox is prevailing in St. Louis as epidemic, as not a single case occurred last week.

The negroes still hold the town of Chicot, Ark., and are pressing in horses and supplies, and had made prisoners. They are being reinforced almost daily.

Mrs. STURDEVANT, wife of the Superintendent of the Nashville Institute for the Blind, lost her life, on Sunday night, by the explosion of a coal-oil lamp.

C. D. MAY, Secretary of State of Oregon, is a supposed defaulter to the amount of $14,000. An officer has been dispatched to Salt Lake City to arrest him.

MARTIN VAN SHEENBURGH, of Madlin, Dutchess County, was found dead near Barrytown, yesterday morning. He had been missing since Thursday last.

A prisoner in the St. Louis calaboose attempted suicide yesterday by cutting his throat with the ragged edge of a tin plate which he tore apart for that purpose.

E. S. ALPART, of Toronto, formerly confidential clerk of Messrs. BARCLAY, BRUCE & CO., of Buffalo, arrested six months ago, charged with embezzlement, was acquitted on Saturday.

The Soldiers' Home, at Knightstown, Ind., was burned yesterday morning. The inmates will be transferred to Dayton Soldiers' Home. The loss or insurance on the building not stated.

WILLIAM DONOVAN, the farm laborer who murdered his employer, MITCHELL, in Contra Costa, California, in a dispute over $10, has been sentenced to be hanged there on Feb. 19.

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF.

NEW-YORK.

JOHN ELLIS was committed at the Jefferson Market Police Court, yesterday, for stabbing FRANCIS P. KNAPP, of No. 353 Greenwich-street.

A Christmas festival will be held for the children at the Madison-avenue Reformed Church, corner of Fifty-seventh-street this evening.

The serenade to Ex-Collector MURPHY will take place this evening, at 9½ o'clock, at his residence. The music will be by the Ninth Regiment Band, of 150 pieces.

Mr. LOUIS SCHRAIDT, of No. 719 Fifth-street, states that his name has been used without his consent in connection with the reorganization of the Democratic Party.

A fire, caused by a candle falling upon a bed, occurred yesterday morning in the dwelling of LAZARUS WOLF, No. 234 East Thirty-fourth-street, doing a damage of $500 to furniture.

DAVID MILLER, a seaman on the schooner *Owen Marrat*, was taken to Park Hospital yesterday with both hands frozen in consequence of the severe weather encountered during the voyage from Porto Rico.

PATRICK DOYLE, of No. 220 West Nineteenth-street, was committed without bail by Justice SHANDLEY at the Jefferson Market Police Court, yesterday, for striking his wife, ROSANNA DOYLE, with a club and breaking her collar-bone.

The Christmas festival of the Wilson Industrial School will take place to-morrow, at 11 A. M., at the Wilson Mission-house, corner Avenue A and Eighth-street. Addresses may be expected from Rev. GEORGE B. BACON, of Orange, N. J., and Rev. C. S. ROBINSON, D. D.

An affray occurred at No. 66 Mott-street last night, during which ELIZA JENNINGS, of No. 60 Mott-street, was stabbed in the back and slightly injured by CORNELIUS HART. The assailant was arrested and locked up in the Sixth Precinct Station-house.

WM. DAVIS, aged twenty-five, and residing at No. 75 Wooster-street, was arrested by Officer EVERS of the Twenty-ninth Precinct, last evening. DAVIS was trying to effect an entrance to the residence of JOHN C. THOMPSON, at No. 19 West Twenty-first-street, with a jimmy.

PATRICK SHEA, aged fourteen years, was accidentally shot in the eye, yesterday, by ANDREW BUSH in the shooting-gallery, No. 48 Bowery. A wire attached to the dart of the air-gun which BUSH discharged pierced the eye of SHEA, and it is thought he will lose his sight.

BENTON B. BAGLEY was arrested last evening on complaint of EPHRAIM OWENS, residing at the Sturtevant House, who says that BAGLEY stole a velvet cloak from him worth $100. The prisoner was taken to the Twenty-ninth Precinct by Officer MINNICK, and the cloak was found in his possession.

MARY NEWMAN was assaulted by her husband last night at their residence, No. 433 First-avenue, and received a severe cut on the head, besides having one of her arms scalded by his pouring hot water upon her. She went to the Eighteenth Precinct Station-house for medical assistance and was sent to Bellevue Hospital.

CHARLES HUMPHRIES, of No. 117 East Thirty-third-street, and GEORGE HUMPHRIES, his brother, were committed yesterday by Justice BIXBY, at the Yorkville Police Court—the former for assaulting Officer NELSON, of the Twenty-first Ward Police, and the latter for attempting to rescue his brother from the officer.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals offer a reward of $50 for such information as will lead to the conviction of any parties, engaging as principals, in a dog or cock fight, within the limits of this State. Also $25 for notice brought to the office of the Society that may lead to the suppression of any such contest.

Patrolman MCCORMACK, Twenty-seventh Precinct, while on duty at 4 o'clock yesterday morning, heard a pane of glass broken, and upon investigating the matter found a man, who gave his name as WILLIAM PRENTISS, concealed over the awning of No. 84 Murray-street, who admitted that he was intending to commit a burglary. He was held for trial.

Howard Lodge No. 35, F. and A. M., one of the oldest and popular lodges of Masons in the City held its annual election Friday evening, and the following persons were chosen: R. P. Gibson, W. M.; J. F. Chappell, S. W.; F. G. Gedney, J. W.; H. Metcalf, Treasurer; A. B. Price, Secretary; A. Stevenson, Jr., S. D.; J. T. Smith, J. D.; J. B. Fitzgerald and W. T. Spencer, M. of C.; J. G. C. Cottier and J. H. Spencer, Stewards; C. A. Cable, Organist; J. Fountain, Tiler.

The annual dinner of the Alumni of Williams College, resident in New-York and vicinity, will take place at Delmonico's, Fifth-avenue and Fourteenth-street, on Thursday evening next, at 6 o'clock. Senator E. C. BENEDICT will preside. Members of the Faculty of the College, Gen. GARFIELD, Gov. WASHBURN, and Judge COLT, of Massachusetts, WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT, and others, are to be present and take part in the literary exercises. Tickets may be obtained from Dr. R. A. BARRY, No. 238 East Thirteenth-street, or C. A. DAVISON, No. 70 William-street.

BROOKLYN.

OWEN PRAY, aged twenty-eight years, residing at No. 60 Morrill-street, E. D., fell from the second-story window, yesterday, and received injuries which will probably prove fatal.

The liquor-store of JAMES KIERNAN, No. 26 Main-street, was entered yesterday morning, and robbed of five bottles of Martel brandy, three bottles of gin, and one box of cigars, of the total value of $16.

A fight occurred in the liquor saloon of JAMES SLOAN, No. 106 Canton-street, yesterday, during which SLOAN inflicted severe injuries on JAMES MCCORMICK, and was arrested therefor, and held to await the result.

ANN ELIZA NICHOLS, who was injured by the explosion of a kerosene lamp at No. 639 Third-avenue, on Sunday, died from the effects of the injuries during the night. An inquest was held, and a verdict of accidental death from burns was rendered.

Yesterday afternoon three young lads went into the liquor-store of HENRY LEWIS, No. 23 James-street, and called for drinks, which, being furnished them, they refused to pay for. The bar-tender, JAMES LEWIS, demanding the money, the gang assaulted and drove him out of the place, and during his absence they robbed the money-drawer of $5 and then made their escape.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

Rev. Mr. LINCOLN, of West Farms, has accepted a call from the Baptist Church of Banksville, Conn.

The anniversary exercises of the Sabbath-school connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Sing Sing commenced last evening in Olive Hall, and will be continued this evening.

Some unavoidable delay having been experienced in obtaining evergreens and other Christmas decorations for St. Paul's (Episcopal) Church at East Chester, twenty-five young ladies and gentlemen of the Church went to work with a will at 12 o'clock on Sunday night, and completed their task about daylight on Christmas morning.

The election for officers of Cortlandt Lodge, No. 189, F. and A. M., Peekskill, resulted in the choice of the following, viz.: Robert Brown, W. M.; Robert D. Nelson, S. W.; George A. Cruger, J. W.; A. F. Chase, S. D.; Alonzo Durran, J. D.; Charles South, Treasurer; G. S. Adams, Secretary; David Griffin, S. M. C.; George W. Lockwood, J. M. C.; George Sykes, Marshal; Rev. O. V. Amerman, Chaplain; Geo. I. Brown, Tiler. The installation ceremonies were conducted by R. W. JAMES W. HUSTED, J. G. W.

LONG ISLAND.

Yesterday a pigeon-shooting match took place at the Bay View House, Pongogue.

The News-dealers' Target Company had an excursion to Schwalenburg's Park, Long Island City, yesterday.

The ladies of St. John's Episcopal Church, Hunter's Point, will hold a fair and festival at their church to-morrow evening.

The new South-side Railroad Depot, at Jamaica, was thrown open for the accommodation of the traveling public yesterday.

On Friday evening, a public installation of the officers elect of Island City Lodge, F. & A. M., was held at the East-avenue Baptist Church, Hunter's Point, D. D. G. M. ELLSWORTH installed the officers. The address was made by P. G. M. JOHN H. SIMONS, of New-York.

On Saturday evening, a meeting was held in Huntington of the sureties of the late Collector GIDEON SEAMAN, whose deficiency amounts to $4,000. Hon. H. C. PLATT, on the part of the town, offered to settle the matter for $3,500. The sureties refused to settle on that basis, and a suit will therefore be commenced against them.

NEW-JERSEY.

The body of an infant was found by WALTER TOONE, on Sunday night, concealed in a box, on Grand-street, near St. Paul's-avenue, Jersey City.

The trestle-work of the Erie bridge over the Passaic River at Hawthorne was broken down on Sunday, and trains have been running over the Hackensack branch by way of Piermont and Sufferns.

An attempt was made, at about 11 o'clock on Sunday night, to burn the Second Presbyterian Church in Paterson. A wood-pile near the church had been set on fire by the incendiary. The flames were discovered and the fire was suppressed.

PATRICK NOLAN, twenty-six years of age, living in the family of Mr. JOSEPH NASON, Montclair, was found dead in his bed on Saturday morning. His death is supposed to have been caused by suffocation from gas generated from an anthracite coal fire in an open clay furnace.

The Philadelphia train which passed New-Brunswick at 4:55, yesterday, dropped three of its cars between that city and Rahway. The coupling and bell-rope broke and these cars were left behind. The train was going at a high rate of speed, and although the engineer, warned by the breaking of the bell-rope, stopped the train as soon as it could be done, the three cars were half a mile behind.

[Advertisement.]

A—REPORTING PROGRESS.—Trade is lively at KNOX'S, No. 212 Broadway, as the acrobats of the famous "Humpty Dumpty," and there is a great rush for his HOLIDAY HATS and FANCY FURS, as there should be if there is any attraction in superior articles and reasonable prices. KNOX'S Holiday season promises to be unusually brilliant.

[Advertisement.]

COLORIFIC colors hair magnificent, glossy, and natural; you can apply it in five minutes; best and cheapest; try it. No. 5 Dey-street, and all druggists.

[Advertisement.]

Use HITCHCOCK'S ARNICA SALVE. Cures corns, bunions, boils, sores, &c. Sold by all druggists.

Movements of Ocean Steamers.

FOR EUROPE.

Cimbria	Dec. 26	New-York	Hamburg.
Cuba	Dec. 27	New-York	Liverpool.
Wyoming	Dec. 27	New-York	Liverpool.
City of Baltimore	Dec. 30	New-York	Liverpool.
St. Laurent	Dec. 30	New-York	Havre.
Italy	Dec. 30	New-York	Liverpool.
Europa	Dec. 30	New-York	Glasgow.
America	Dec. 30	New-York	Bremen.

FOR HAVANA AND ASPINWALL.

Missouri	Dec. 28	New-York	Havana.
Henry Chauncey	Dec. 30	New-York	Aspinwall.

Closing of Foreign Mails at Post-Office.

TUESDAY.

For Europe, via Plymouth, Cherbourg and Hamburg, by the *Cimbria*, at 11 A. M., with a supplementary mail for double-paid letters only on the Pier at the foot of Third-street, in Hoboken, until 1.10 P. M.

WEDNESDAY.

For Europe, via Queenstown, by the *Wyoming*, at 11:30 A. M., with a supplementary mail for double-paid letters only, on Pier No. 46 North River, until 1.45 P. M.

Closing of Domestic Mails.

North, Poughkeepsie Way	5 A. M.; 2 P. M.
North, through via H. R. R. R. and New-York Central	5 A. M.; 4:00, 8 P. M.
North Way, via Harlem R. R.	5 A. M.; 2 P. M.
East, via New-Haven	5 A. M.; 1:30, 6 P. M.
East, via Newport	3 P. M.
East, New-Haven Way	5 A. M.; 1:30, 6 P. M.
East, Fall River, rail	3 P. M.
South, Through	7 A. M.; 7:30 P. M.
Philadelphia Way	5 A. M.; 3:00 P. M.
West Mail, through to Harrisburg, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Louisville, Indianapolis, Columbus, Chicago, St. Paul, St. Joseph, Salt Lake and Denver	7 A. M.; 3:00 P. M.
West Mail, through to Cleveland, Toledo, and by A. and G. Western R. R. to Franklin and Meadville, Penn., &c.	7 A. M.; 4:30 P. M.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises......7:23 | Sun sets......4:38 | Moon rises..5:21

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

Sandy Hook...7:03 | Gov. Island.7:52 | Hell Gate....9:14

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK....MONDAY, Dec. 25.

Arrived.

Steam-ship Georgia, Holmes, Charleston Dec. 21, with mdse. and passengers to H. R. Morgan & Co.; 23d inst., 6½ A. M., Cape Hatteras, bearing W., passed steam-ship Columbia hence for Havana; 24th, 9½ A. M., off Little Egg Harbor, passed brig Clara Belle, bound N.; same day, 11½ A. M., off Barnegat, passed steam-ships San Salvador, James Adger, Montgomery, and Mercedita, all bound S.; at 3 P. M., passed steam-ship Wilmington hence for Galveston and Key West.

Steam-ship Norwich, Hines, Salem, with mdse. and passengers to Murray, Ferris & Co.

Steam-ship Mercury, Bearse, Boston, with mdse. and passengers to Wm. P. Clyde.

Steam-ship Henry Halsey, New-Orleans Dec. 15, with mdse. and passengers to Frederic Baker.

Steam-ship Regulator, Freeman, Wilmington, with naval stores, &c., to the Lorillard Steam-ship Co.

Steam-ship Malay, (of Salem,) Clough, Manila June 28, with mdse. to J. H. Williams.

Ship Varuna, Armstrong, of and from London Nov. 4, with mdse. to order—vessel to R. P. Buck & Co. Dec. 11, lat. 41 10, lon. 57, spoke ship Riverdale, from [illegible]

Ship James Foster, Jr., Cunningham, Liverpool 37 ds., with mdse. and 41 passengers to Chas. H. Marshall & Co. Dec. 11, no lat. &c., spoke bark Martin W. Brett, from Stockholm, for Boston, 48 ds. out.

Ship Christel, (N. G.,) Friedrichs, Bremen Oct. 21, with mdse. and 219 passengers to Herman Koop & Co. No date, lat. 30 09, lon. 34 41, passed a British bark bound S., showing a signal with letters T. M. H. C. in it.

Ship Hamilton, (of Boston,) Small, Kennebunk 8 ds., in ballast to Geo. D. Sutton. Will load for San Francisco.

Bark Flor del Mar, (of St. Andrews, N. B.,) Wiswell, Buenos Ayres Oct. 13, with hides, &c., to order—vessel to Wm. Ingalls. Oct. 18, lat. 34 08 S., lon. 50 07, spoke brig Helen O. Phinny, from Portland for Buenos Ayres, 62 ds. out; 20th, lat. 33 05 S., lon. 48 50, spoke bark Rothenay, (Br.,) from Montreal for Montevideo; Dec. 15, lat. 29 37, lon. 73 50, spoke bark Morning Star, hence for St. Jago.

Bark Francisco Chiassaro, (Ital.,) Pizzardo, Alicante 73 ds., with coal to order—vessel to Funch, Edye & Co.

Bark Loside, (of Glasgow,) McGowan, Demerara 21 ds., with sugar to order—vessel to Wm. Nelson, Jr.

Bark Kong Carl, (Nor.,) Thorwaldsen, Port Talbot Oct. 6, with railroad-iron to order—vessel to Funch, Edye & Co.

Bark Antelope, Davis, Salt Cay, T. I., 21 ds., with salt and hides to Roche, Bros. & Co. Left in port schr. Grasmere, for New-York next day.

Bark Andes, (of Portland,) Davis, Guanica, P. R., 16 ds., with sugar to J. De Rivera & Co.—vessel to Stephens & Soule. Left no vessels.

Bark Axel, (Swed.,) Sandergren, Rio Janeiro 49 ds., with coffee to Weston & Gray—vessel to master. Dec. 12, lat. 27, lon. 67 40, spoke bark Phoceen, (Fr.,) from Iquique, for New-York, 91 ds. out.

Bark A. M. Schweigaard, (Nor.,) Johnson, Cardiff, 55 days, with railroad iron to order. Vessel to Tetens & Bockmann.

Bark Ulrika, (Swed.,) Brendenberg, Malaga, 61 dys with mdse. to order. Vessel to Tetens & Bockmann. Nov. 5, lat. 39 17, lon. 72 43, spoke bark Sovereign, (Br.,) from Liverpool for Philadelphia, 56 dys. out, with loss of main-mast, foretop-mast and sails.

Bark Abby Bacon, Merrill, Malaga Nov. 14, with mdse. to L. H. Willard. Dec. 13, lat. 24 45, lon. 59 58, spoke bark Abram Young, (Br.,) from Havre for Savannah.

Bark Lorenzo, (Norw.,) Lund, Dublin 75 ds., with pig-iron to order—vessel to Funch, Edye & Co.; is bound to New-Haven.

Bark R. H. Purinton, (of Providence,) Crosley, Ardrossan 50 ds., with pig-iron to order—vessel to Walsh, Field & Way.

Bark Lindesnaes, (Nor.,) Samuelsen, Cardiff, Oct. 24, with railroad iron to order—vessel to Funch, Edye & Co.

Bark Yumuri, (of Nassau,) Sagua 12 ds., with sugar to Waydell & Co.

Bark H. Upham, (N. G.,) Schultte, Bremen 60 ds., in ballast to Pavenstedt & Co.

Bark Oriente, (Russ.,) Orlando, Batavia Sept. 1, with mdse. to order.

Bark San Pedro, Gage, Charleston, Dec. 12, with cotton to order.

Bark Unione, (Ital.,) Cafferefro, Palermo, Oct. 28, with mdse. to Siocovich & Co.

Bark Francesca, Carmoglii, (Ital.,) Simonetti, Dublin 46 ds., in ballast to Siocovich & Co.

Brig La Creole, (Dutch,) Spalckhaven, Curacao 21 ds., with fustic, goat-skins, &c., to Dovale & Co. Sailed in co. with brig Emma Dean, for New-York; left in port brig Curacao, for New-York in 2 ds.

Brig Jeaquina de Barreras, (Span.,) Leston, Cardenas 14 ds., with sugar to C. Marti & Co.

Brig Sea Bird, (of Canning, N. S.,) Card, Maracaibo 30 ds., and 25 ds. from the Bar, with coffee to Schmilinsky, Lotz & Co.—vessel to Peniston & Co. Dec. 18, lat. 32, lon. 73 20, spoke brig L. L. Wadsworth, hence for West Indies; left in port bark Allemannia, for New-York, wtg.

Brig H. S. Bishop, (of Harpswell,) Webber, Martinique, via St. Thomas and Salt Cay, T. I., 22 ds., with salt to J. L. Nickerson—vessel to R. P. Buck & Co. Left no vessels at Salt Cay.

Brig Mary E. Rowland, Rowland, Zante Oct. 5, with currants to Lawrence, Giles & Co. Dec. 19, lat. 29 01, lon. 73 40, spoke bark Jennie Morton, from Baltimore, bound S.; 23d, off Chincoteague, spoke schr. Sally B., hence, bound S.

Brig V. H. Hill, (of Provincetown,) Wharf, Aux Cayes 23 ds., with logwood and cocoa to H. Becker—vessel to Brett, Son & Co. Left in port schr. Abbie H. Brown, for New-York in 6 ds.; Altavela, for do. in 7 ds.; Hattie Haskell, for do. in 5 ds.

Brig Perces Hinckley, Foster, Savanilla 27 ds., with sugar to J. C. De Meier—vessel to Simpson, Clapp & Co. Left in port brig Centaur, (Br.,) for New-York, ldg.

Brig Ella, (of Nassau,) Poole, Rio Grande do Sul 56 ds., with hides, &c., to Oelrichs & Co.

Brig Prosperity, (Nor.,) Beruldsen, Newport, Eng., 60 ds., with railroad iron to order—vessel to master. Lat. 27, lon. 27, spoke bark Polycarp, (Nor.,) from Newport, for New-York.

Brig Mercedes, (of Turk's Island,) Hill, Salt Cay, T. I., 10 ds., with salt to C. A. Knox—vessel to J. & G. Fowler.

Brig Harry and Aubrey, (of Pugwash, N. S.,) Burgess, Demerara 24 ds., with sugar to T. T. & F. A. Dwight.

Brig Clara P. Gibbs, (of Bangor,) Parker, Anguilla 17 ds., with salt to Woodruff & Robinsons; vessel to Miller & Houghton.

Brig Robert Mowe, (of New-Haven,) Abbott, Demerara 22 ds., with sugar to H. Trowbridge's Sons.

Brig Speed, (of Shelburne, N. S.,) Larken, Newcastle, Eng., 74 ds., with mdse. to order—vessel to Brett, Son & Co. Dec. 18, lat. 36, lon. 72, spoke bark Stella, (Br.,) from Newport, Eng., for Baltimore.

Brig Emma Dean, Atkinson, of and 20 ds. from Curacao, with salt, hides, &c., to Theodore Foulke.

Brig Cacique, (Bras.,) Cintra, Rio Grande do Sul 71 ds., with hides, wool, &c., to Bento Bros.—vessel to Dowley, Corners & Co.

Brig Nancy Ross, (of Halifax,) McClellan, Port-au-Platte 18 ds., with mdse to Lines, Crosby & Co.—vessel to master. Left no vessels.

Brig Airola, (of Economy, N. S.,) Ellis, Cardenas 10 ds., with sugar to Moses Taylor & Co.—vessel to J. F. Whitney & Co.

Brig Edward, (of St. Kitts,) Lange, Anguilla 15 ds., with salt to Woodruff & Robinsons—vessel to G. Wessels.

Brig Agilis, (Br.,) Mahy, Rio Janeiro Oct. 17, via Hampton Roads Dec. 19, with coffee to order—vessel to Geo. H. Bulley.

Brig Rana, (Nor.,) Lassen, St. Louis, Spain, 70 ds., with mdse. to order—vessel to Tetens & Bockmann.

Schr. Harriet Brewster, (of Brookhaven,) Squires, Pernambuco 26 ds., with sugar to Napier & Co.—vessel to A. Abbott. Left in port brig Jabestac, (Bras.,) for New-York, to sail Nov. 27.

Schr. Hortensia, (of Boston,) Norton, Para 27 ds., with rubber, &c., to L. E. Amsinck & Co.—vessel to Miller & Houghton.

Schr. S. C. Noyes, (of Newburyport,) Bradley, Mayaguez, P. R., 12 ds., with oranges to Jos. Eneas—vessel to R. J. Wenberg. Left in port schrs. Clara Montgomery, for New-York next day; Daylight, for New-York in 6 ds.; Rebecca M. Atwood, for New-York in 7 ds.

Schr. Clara Montgomery, Borden, Mayaguez, P. R., 14 ds., with fruit to J. & T. Pearsall—vessel to Evans, Ball & Co. Left in port brig Altavela, for New-York in 6 ds.; schrs. Daylight and R. M. Atwood, for New-York in 6 ds. Ricardo Barros hence, just arr.

Schr. C. A. Farnsworth, (of Barbados,) Beacon, Jeremie 20 ds., with logwood and cocoa to Richard Thackray—vessel to master. Left no vessels.

Schr. Cornelia, (of New-London,) Dennison, Savannah 8 ds., with lumber for Bridgeport. Has had N. E. gales the entire passage.

Schr. Mary Chilton, (of Plymouth, Mass.,) Parsons, Ponce, P. R., Dec. 8, via Grand Turk, T. I., 12 ds., with salt to E. Sanchez y Dols—vessel to master. Left no vessels at Grand Turk; left at Ponce schr. Julia A. Decker, for New-York only.

Schr. Frank Howard, (of Bath,) Dermott, Para 18 ds., with rubber, &c., to order—vessel to R. J. Wenberg. Dec. 21, lat. 37, lon. 70, spoke bark Lapwing, from Rio Janeiro, for Baltimore; left in port schrs. Silver Star, for New-York next day, and Sarah A. Reed, for do. in 6 ds.

Schr. Chas. C. Warren, (of Gloucester,) Smith, Kingston, Jamaica, 20 ds., with fruit to E. K. Hutchinson & Co.

Schr. Joseph Oakes, (of Bangor,) Oakes, Port Maria, Jamaica, 18 ds., with log-wood to E. de Cordova & Co.

Schr. Evelina, (of New-Haven,) Pierce, Barbados 23 ds., with sugar to Daniel Trowbridge & Co.

Schr. W. H. Jones, Lines, Fernandina 9 ds., with lumber to order—vessel to A. Abbott.

Schr. Sarah J. Fort, Fort, Baltimore 5 ds., with coal to Bremen Steam-ship Co.

Schr. Maria Lelacon, Grace, Baltimore 5 ds., with coal to Maryland Coal Co.

BELOW—brig Maria, (Ital.,) Savarese, from Denia Nov. 1.

WIND—Sundown, light, S. W., thick fog.

Miscellaneous.

Steam-ship St. Louis, Whitehead, hence for New-Orleans, Dec. 24, off Barnegat, found the propeller loose, and put back for repairs.

The ship Rhine, Jordan, from London, arr. 24th, and anchored off Sandy Hook, came up this P. M.

The bark Thomas Dallett, (Br.,) Wiek, from Curacao, (not Laguayra, as before reported,) arr. 24th, and anchored off Sandy Hook, came up this P. M. Dec. 6, in the Mona Passage, spoke brig Maria, (N. G.,) from Cuba, for Boston. The T. H. has been off the port 2 ds. in a dense fog.

By Telegraph.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 25.—Arr. steam-ship Gen. Cromwell, from New-York.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 25.—Arr. steam-ship H. Livingston, from New-York; ship Eliza, from Cape de Verde; barks Alabama, from Liverpool; Shamrock, from Belfast.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—Arr. ship Twilight, from New-York.

VINEYARD HAVEN, Dec. 24.—Arr. bark Annie M. Gray, (of Bucksport,) Malta Sept. 25, and St. Thomas Dec. 8, for Boston. Also arr. brig Harmony, London, Oct. 12, for Boston; Nov. 24, lat. 24 54, lon. 50 15, saw an Italian bark with signal set; ran down to her. She was 65 ds. from Waterford for New-York, short of provisions; was not able to understand her name; could not supply her. Dec. 12, lat. 29, lon. 70 10, spoke ship Kalas from Savannah. Also arr. brig Cape Haytien from Boston; schr. Golden City, Cayenne, for Salem; Sylvan Curacoa for Boston; A. D. Henderson, Inagua for do; Arthur Clifford, Baltimore for Saugus; Isabella Jewell, Bucksport, for Newport; James Bliss, Boston, for Bucksville; Charles E. Paige and E. H. Porter, do. for Baltimore; Brandywine, do. for Stamford. Sld. all before reported, excepting brig Harmony, schrs. Eloria, Emma M. Fox, Fannie Hannier, Helen G. King, Rio, Forest City, R. A. Ford, Rough Diamond, King Bird, Brandywine, Charles E. Page, James Bliss, Isabella Jewett, A. D. Henderson and Sylvan.

25th—Arr. schrs. Temple Ward, St. John, N. B., for New-York; Edward Lemayer, Elizabethport, for Newburyport. Returned, bark Annie M. Gray, brigs Ida C. and Prairie Rose, schr. M. A. Harrison. Sld. schrs. Fannie Hannier and Edward Lemayer.

Foreign Ports.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 25.—Arr. steamer City of Baltimore, from Liverpool, for New-York, short of coal.

European Marine News.

BREST, Dec. 25.—The General Trans-atlantic Company's steam-ship Pereire, Capt. Daure, which left New-York Dec. 16, arr. here at 3 o'clock this morning, making the voyage in 8 ds. and 14 hours.

OPEN EVENINGS.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

NECK-CHAINS AND LOCKETS, WATCH-CHAINS AND WATCHES,

TO BE FOUND AT

BALL, BLACK & CO.'S,

NOS. 565 AND 567 BROADWAY.

Sixty Styles.

PRICES, $50, $65, $100, $125, $130, $140, $160, $175, $200, $225, $250 TO $1,000 EACH.

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The most popular and extensively sold large musical instruments in the world, in plain and elegant cases for all uses.

One to Thirteen Stops.

Flute,	Melodia,	Bourdon,
Principal,	Diapason,	Gamba,
Octave,	Euphone,	Bassoon,
Flute D'Amour,	Hautboy,	Voix Celeste,
Tremulant,	Fifteenth,	Viol D'Amour,
Vox Humana,	Cor Anglais,	Viola,
Automatic Swell,	Couplers,	Pedals, &c.

We are daily receiving from our factories a few extra styles in superb cases, surpassing in attractiveness any before offered.

There can be no more Elegant and Valuable Present.

Our assortment of styles is very much larger than any other in the country; prices are fixed and invariable; and it is a pleasure to exhibit our instruments to all who may be sufficiently interested to call.

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HAS OPENED HIS RETAIL DEPARTMENT for the HOLIDAY SEASON.

A FULL ASSORTMENT OF LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S FURS, OF HIS OWN MANUFACTURE.

SEAL AND ASTRAKHAN SACQUES, PLAIN AND TRIMMED WITH BLACK MARTIN, GREBE, &c.

MINK, SABLE, BLACK MARTIN AND ERMINE SETS. In great variety.

A FULL ASSORTMENT OF FUR TRIMMINGS.

BEAR, FOX, WOLF, And other SLEIGH ROBES At prices much below last season.

ALSO, SOLE MANUFACTURER OF THE CELEBRATED PATENT LEGANT MUFF.

BRUCH-FOUCHER & CO.'S CHAMPAGNES,

LAC D'OR, CARTE D'OR,

BY ALL CONNOISSEURS PRONOUNCED TO BE THE BEST WINES IN THE MARKET.

WM. MAUCHER & CO., NOS. 54 AND 56 BROAD-ST., NEW-YORK. Sole Agents for the United States.

REMOVAL.

WILLIAM MOIR, Formerly at No. 315 Hudson-st., has removed to No. 272 6th-Av., Corner of 23d-St. Full assortment of DIAMONDS, WATCHES, CLOCKS, BRONZES, JEWELRY AND SILVER-WARE, at reasonable rates.

BEEBE HATS and MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS. BEEBE & CO., HATTERS, 160 BROADWAY.

THOS. R. AGNEW, NO. 260 GREENWICH-ST.—Choice Groceries, Teas, Flour, Fish, &c., wholesale and retail. One price, cash only.

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DEVLIN & CO.,

BROADWAY and GRAND-ST., BROADWAY and WARREN-ST.

MEN'S and BOYS' CLOTHING, OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, AT A LARGE ACTUAL REDUCTION IN PRICE.

EQUAL IN STYLE TO BEST CUSTOM WORK, AND AT HALF THE COST.

ASSORTMENT THE SAME AT BOTH STORES.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

Marble, Bronze and Gilt Clocks, Ornaments, Pedestals, Work-Boxes, Card-Receivers, Jardinieres and Flowers, AND A VARIETY OF OTHER ARTICLES.

PRICES VERY LOW.

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WE ARE NOW MAKING 10 PER CENT. ALLOWANCE from marked prices on all cash sales of BOYS' AND MEN'S CLOTHING, UNTIL AFTER THE HOLIDAYS.

BROKAW BROS.

4TH-AV., OPPOSITE COOPER INSTITUTE, LAFAYETTE-PLACE, OPPOSITE ASTOR-PL.

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